

WUPE 100.1FM

North Adams, Massachusetts

ISSUES AND NEEDS REPORT

OCTOBER – NOVEMBER – DECEMBER
2014

COMMUNITY ISSUES IN THE 4TH QUARTER OF 2014

What were the issues in our community? Read on.

NORTH ADAMS REGIONAL HOSPITAL SERVICES

The Stroudwater report, a recommendation of what should be done with the former North Adams Regional Hospital, was released September 18th. Stroudwater then held two public meetings at Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts in North Adams with approximately 200 people in attendance. Most attendees were sorely disappointed that the report did not recommend reopening the former North Adams Regional Hospital as a full-service facility. Since then BMC dubbed the hospital a northern division of the Pittsfield hospital and restored many outpatient services that residents have had to do without since the hospital's abrupt closure in March of 2014.

KINDER MORGAN PIPELINE CHANGES ROUTE OPTION:

Kinder Morgan's effort's to build a new gas line has once again been a huge topic of debate over the final quarter of 2014. Several groups have come out in opposition to it, due primarily to environmental concerns. In response to fierce opposition from homeowners, town officials and political leaders, energy giant Kinder Morgan shifted northward its proposed gas pipeline route through Berkshire County. The change spares Pittsfield, but groups in other new communities affected have now started to make noise.

STATEWIDE ELECTION AND A NEW REPUBLICAN GOVERNOR:

The State of Massachusetts elected a new governor in November: Republican Charlie Baker. Baker's main opponent in the race was the now former Attorney General Martha Coakley, who is also a native of North Adams. Coakley did get strong support in the Berkshires, but the state saw things differently.

ADAMS TOWN MANAGER LEAVES FOR PITTSFIELD POST

Adams town manager Paul Butler left his job this quarter after many successful years at the helm there. He took a job as the President and CEO of the Berkshire Chamber of Commerce in Pittsfield.

Gamma Broadcasting 2014

WUPE 100.1FM
North Adams, Massachusetts
ISSUES AND NEEDS REPORT

OCTOBER – NOVEMBER – DECEMBER
2014

NEWS

This is a sample of news copy presented on the air on the air
during a normal broadcast day.

The Berkshire News Network provides extensive and rounded
coverage of stories throughout Berkshire County. Stories are
shared between stations on a routine basis.

Gamma Broadcasting 2014

WUPE 100.1FM
North Adams, Massachusetts

ISSUES AND NEEDS REPORT

OCTOBER – NOVEMBER – DECEMBER
2014

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

- What were the issues
- City Talk
- News stories
- Samples of public service announcements
- Commonwealth Journal
- Viewpoints

Compiled by Tom Conklin
News Director

Gamma Broadcasting 2014

WUPE 100.1 FM

Pittsfield, Massachusetts

ISSUES AND NEEDS REPORT

OCTOBER – NOVEMBER – DECEMBER

2014

City Talk

City Talk is a 30 minute public affairs program focusing on the city of Pittsfield and its workings. Guests include local lawmakers, educators, city officials, city councilors, etc. The program is hosted by Gamma Broadcasting News Director Tom Conklin and airs on AM1420 WBEC on Friday's at 11:30AM and – and also repeats on Sunday mornings on AM1420 WBEC, 100.1 WUPE-FM, WUPE-AM and LIVE 95.9 FM.

Gamma Broadcasting 2014

CITY TALK – GUESTS 2014

OCTOBER

- 10/03/14 – Jeff McCormick**, Independent for Governor
- 10/10/14 – Steve Kerrigan**, Democrat for Lt. Governor
- 10/17/14 – Martha Coakley**, Democrat for Governor
- 10/23/14 – Maura Healey**, Democrat for State Attorney General
- 10/24/14 – Evan Falchuck**, United Independent for Governor
- 10/28/14 – Candidates for Sec. of State:** Galvin (D), D’Arcangelo (R), Factor (GR)
- 10/29/14 – John Miller**, Republican Candidate for State Attorney General
- 10/30/14 – Deb Goldberg**, Democratic Candidate for Treasurer
- 10/31/14 – Scott Lively**, Green Rainbow Candidate for Governor

NOVEMBER

- 11/07/14 – Mayor Dan Bianchi**, Monthly Update
- 11/14/14 – Ward 5 City Councilor Jonathan Lothrop**, Ward Update
- 11/21/14 – City Council President Melissa Mazzeo**, Council Update
- 11/28/14 – No Show – Black Friday**

DECEMBER

- 12/05/14 – Mayor Dan Bianchi**, Monthly Update
- 9/12/14 – Archived Show**
- 9/19/14 – Archived Show**
- 9/26/14 – Archived Show**

NA 10-01-14

NATIONAL GRID RATE HIKE SPARKS CRITISISM (All)

A sharp spike in winter season electricity charges announced last week by National Grid, which does not generate power but delivers it based on outside market prices, is drawing fire from Berkshire County customers. The Berkshire Eagle reports that the 37 percent increase over last winter's prices, based on expected tight supplies of natural gas that fuel electricity-generating plants, could increase a typical Berkshire homeowner's bill by as much as \$100 a month during January and February. The rate hike from November to May represents a 49 percent surge over current rates, according to National Grid spokesman Jake Navarro.

MOHAWK TRAIL CENTENNIAL DEDICATION SET FOR SATURDAY (NA)

The winding Mohawk Trail will be rededicated on Saturday, October 4th, at 1 p.m. at the Whitcomb Summit. IBerkshires.com reports that thought to be the nation's first scenic byway, the trail will be honored on its centennial with speaking program, displays and cake. It runs for 65 miles between Orange and Williamstown, reaching its highest elevation of 2,272 feet above sea level at the Whitcomb Summit, and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

CLARKSBURG OFFICIALS FRUSTRATED (NA)

The Selectmen in Clarksburg are planning more employee accountability after last Wednesday's special town meeting fiasco. IBerkshires.com reports that seven items related to spending had to be tabled when the town officials learned from a resident that morning that they could not use \$80,000 from the sewer enterprise fund. Using that money would have been illegal because the amount in the account has to be certified by the state before it can be spent in this fiscal year. Finance Committee member Lori-Anne Aubin attended Monday's meeting to discuss the events of the town meeting.

CANDLELIGHT VIGIL IN NORTH ADAMS (NA)

A candlelight vigil was held yesterday in North Adams for those touched by drug addiction. The event, hosted by the Northern Berkshire Community Coalition's nb21 program yesterday, drew more than 100 people. The vigil was held to raise community awareness about the opioid epidemic, according to Lois Daunis, nb21 coordinator and vigil organizer. It also was meant to provide support for those in recovery and those who have lost a loved one.

WINFREY AND BELAFONTE AMONG W.E.B. DU BOIS MEDAL WINNERS (All)

Oprah Winfrey and Harry Belafonte are among those that received a W.E.B Du Bois Medal from Harvard University. The ceremony took place yesterday afternoon at the Ivy League school's Sanders Theatre. The Du Bois Medal is the school's highest honor in the field of African and African American Studies. It has been awarded since 2000 in recognition of contributions to African-American culture and the life of the mind. Steve McQueen, Harvey Weinstein and Maya Angelou, posthumously, were among a handful of others receiving one of the coveted medals yesterday. Governor Deval Patrick was among the presenters. Du Bois was born in Great Barrington.

NA 10-06-14

COAKLEY STRESSES COMMITMENT TO BERKSHIRES (All)

Martha Coakley ended a swing through the state on Saturday with a stop at the Freight Yard Pub North Adams. Coakley, a graduate of Drury High School, vowed on Saturday to a small group gathered at the pub, that she hasn't — and wouldn't — forget her home county. |Berkshires.com reports that in North County, most residents believe that means ensuring the former North Adams Regional Hospital reopens in some form — and Coakley noted her office is still investigating the actions of the former health-care system's board of trustees in its closure and the efforts by her office and local and state officials in restoring emergency services.

MOHAWK TRAIL CELEBRATION LOOKS BACK ON HISTORY (NA)

Mohawk Trail's centennial was marked at the Whitcomb Summit on Saturday. The Mohawk Trail opened a century ago, and on that day hundreds made their way up the mountain from North Adams to attend. A century later, more than 50 people this weekend stood under umbrellas in the pouring rain at the Whitcomb Summit to celebrate the centennial of one the nation's first scenic byways. Rep Gail Cariddi presented a resolution from the House of Representatives recognizing the centennial.

FALL FOLIAGE PARADE HELD SUNDAY (NA)

The 59th annual Fall Foliage Parade marched through downtown North Adams on Sunday to a large crowd of spectators. The line-of-march was filled with bands, local groups, politicians, and all kinds of floats celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Mohawk Trail. There was also a line of fire trucks, police cruisers and ambulances. This year, in addition to a host of local dignitaries, Attorney General Martha Coakley marched in the parade.

NORTH ADAMA PRO HOCKEY TEAM SELLS TICKETS (NA)

The Berkshire Battalion of the Federal Hockey League says it is full steam ahead for the team's planned Friday, Oct. 17, home opener at the Peter W. Foote Vietnam Veterans Memorial Rink. |Berkshires.com reports that the team is putting together a roster. It is showing off its new uniforms. And it is selling tickets and apparel. But local hockey fans may want to hold onto their receipts from those purchases. The team is confident. But the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, which manages the rink, said Friday that it still is in discussions with the city regarding the team's use of the Church Street facility.

LOTS EYED FOR SOLAR ARRAYS (NA)

A solar energy developer is eying two privately owned lots in North Adams for a pair of 650 kilowatt panel arrays. The Berkshire Eagle reports, Borrego Solar Systems, which has offices in New York and Boston, has proposed the solar arrays for atop West Shaft Road and on Reservoir Road. The installation of an array would include cutting down 10.8 acres of forest, according to the plans. The panels themselves would stretch 7.5 acres.

NA 10-10-14

MAYOR RICHARD ALCOMBRIGHT WILL RUN AGAIN (NA)

North Adams Mayor Richard Alcombright says he "fully intends" to run for a fourth term in office, and will kick off fundraising efforts later this month. The Berkshire Eagle reports that according to Alcombright, barring a family or health emergency, he wants to serve another two-year term in 2015. It would be his fourth since defeating longtime Mayor John Barrett III in 2009.

WILLIAMSTOWN-LANESBOROUGH SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH PROGRESSING (NA)

The search committee for the next superintendent of Williamstown's and Lanesborough's schools is staying on track with its timetable to replace the retiring Rose Ellis. IBerkshires.com reports that the chairman of the Lanesborough School Committee on Tuesday reported to her colleagues at a meeting of Superintendency Union 71 that the search committee is scheduled to meet on October 15th to review applications for the post. SU-71, a union of Williamstown Elementary and Lanesborough Elementary schools, shares central administration staff, including the superintendent, with Mount Greylock Regional School in an arrangement referred to as the Tri-District. The deadline for applications is today.

MCCANN LOOKS TO BETTER MCAS SCORES (NA)

McCann Technical School is focusing on how to reach the top tier in MCAS scores. The McCann School Committee last night reviewed new strategies the school will adopt to better its chances of closing a proficiency gap and earning a Level 1 school status. Principal Justin Kratz said McCann is already a high-scoring school and it becomes increasingly difficult to score higher because it has already made large accomplishments.

VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE LOOMING (All)

The deadline to register to vote in the Tuesday, November 4th, state election is Wednesday October 15th, for residents here in the Berkshires and for all municipalities in the state. City and town clerks' offices will be open until 8 p.m. on that day. Some of the smaller towns in the Berkshires have varying hours. You should call ahead to your town hall or check your town's website. Voters can check their voter registration status on the secretary of commonwealth's website or contact their town or city clerk. Absentee ballots are also available in your local town clerks' office and on the secretary's website.

BCC BUDGET, A GOOD STORY OVERALL (All)

Berkshire Community College has a tight budget for the current school year, but one that presents "a good story" overall, according to college Vice President for Administration and Chief Financial Officer John Law. Presenting the now-final budget figures for fiscal 2015 to college trustees on Tuesday, Law said a decline in enrollment -- a trend for community colleges statewide -- resulted in less revenue for BCC, but that it has been more than made up for through increases in state funding. He said an expected decrease in revenue from student fees of just more than \$400,000 from last year was offset by a more than \$876,000 increase in the state appropriation.

NA 10-15-14

NORTH ADAMS CITY COUNCIL ADOPTS RESOLUTION CALLING FOR A FULL HOSPITAL (NA)

The North Adams City Council yesterday unanimously approved a resolution supporting the reopening of the former North Adam Regional Hospital. IBerkshires.com reports that supporters of the resolution filled the City Council chambers last night in hopes that North Adams would join the list of surrounding municipalities that have supported and sent a resolution to the governor and other state representatives. The resolution, which was submitted by Councilor Benjamin Lamb, asks for the restoration of a full-service hospital and noted that Northern Berkshire residents are without needed inpatient services. Adams, Clarksburg, Great Barrington, Hancock and Egremont have already passed similar resolutions. The issue was also presented as a citizen's petition on yesterday to the Williamstown Selectmen, which delayed a decision because of absent board members.

OPERA MAY AGAIN SOUND IN BERKSHIRES (All)

The Berkshires may again ring out with the sound of locally produced opera. The Berkshire Eagle reports that there has been a void in the local music scene since the Berkshire Opera Company went quiet back in 2008. Two young professionals in the field are now organizing a new Berkshire Opera Festival, with summer performances slated to begin in 2016.

LONGTIME EAGLE JOURNALIST MILTON BASS DIES (All)

Author and critic Milton Bass, who served as The Berkshire Eagle's entertainment editor for more than 30 years, and as a columnist for 60 years has died. He passed away yesterday at the age of 91.

RESIDENTS NEED TO ACT QUICKLY TO REGISTER TO VOTE (All)

Massachusetts residents who need to register to vote should act quickly. Today is the final day to register before the November 4th election. Most city and town halls will be open until to 8pm to accommodate people wishing to register. Some smaller towns have varying hours. Anyone who is a United States citizen, a resident of Massachusetts, and who will be at least 18 years old on or before Election Day, is eligible to register. Voters who have moved to a different community within the state must register again to be able to vote in their new community. Voters registering by mail should have their form hand-canceled to ensure it is postmarked before the deadline.

WILLIAMSTOWN BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEET (NA)

The Williamstown Board of Selectmen met last night and OK'd a project schedule for the Highland Woods senior housing development. The developers promised to provide a schedule for the town's review when they received town funding for the project earlier this year. Town Manager Peter Fohlin also advised the board that 34 of the 66 households that remained in the Spruces Mobile Home Park earlier this year have moved out of the park. To date, seven residents have remained in the town. An additional six have identified their future housing.

NA 10-16-14

ECU-HEALTH CARE MOVING BACK TO FORMER NORTH ADAMS HOSPITAL SITE (NA)

Ecu-Health Care, a nonprofit community organization that provides Northern Berkshire residents with information and application assistance to access state health insurance programs, has announced that it will relocate to the Northern Berkshire Campus of Berkshire Medical Center, effective October 24th. IBerkshires.com reports that Ecu-Health Care will occupy the second floor office it had used for many years prior to the closing of the former North Adams Regional Hospital at 71 Hospital Ave. The office is in the former Doctor's Building, located between the Ambulatory Care Center and the Clark House. Ecu-Health Care is currently located at 26 Union Street in North Adams. The office will be closed on October 23rd for the move and reopening on October 24th.

ADAMS SIGNS LEASE TO MOVE FORWARD WITH GREYLOCK GLEN (NA-interest)

The Adams Board of Selectmen has signed a lease agreement to make the Greylock Glen "shovel ready." Interim Town Administrator Donna Cesan said yesterday that the complicated agreement with the state is a critical step in the project which is believed to revitalize Adams as well as add a new destination to the Northern Berkshires. The latest plan calls for campgrounds, hiking trails, conference center and an amphitheater. The town has already built utility infrastructure up to the property and is looking to build out the campgrounds next.

BERKSHIRE BATTALION READY TO HIT THE ICE (NA-interest)

Berkshire Battalion, the Berkshires new professional hockey team based in North Adams, will start its inaugural season tomorrow night. The team will take the ice at the Peter W. Foote Vietnam Veterans Memorial Skating Rink for its first-ever game against the Southwest Pennsylvania Magic. Dan Farrell has been with the club as its head coach and director of hockey operations for about a month. He's making final preparations and getting his lines set for the team's debut tomorrow night at 7:30.

DISCUSSION SET ON NARH CLOSURE (NA)

Williams College students are hosting a community discussion on the closure of North Adams Regional Hospital at 7:30 tonight at the school's Dodd House at 64 Mission Park Drive. The event will include five speakers including a former nurse, doctor, an ambulance driver, the Williams College chaplain, and an economics professor. Community members will be invited to share their stories during an open mic.

BCC PARTNERS WITH UALBANY'S ATMOSPHERIC SCIENCE PROGRAM (All)

Berkshire Community College has partnered with the University of Albany to support student wishing to study atmospheric science. College President Ellen Kennedy has signed an articulation agreement with U-Albany to create a seamless transition for students from the two-year atmospheric science study at BCC to finishing off a Bachelor's Degree at the Albany school. Previously, those from Berkshire County who knew they could pursue a career in atmospheric studies had to go to four-year institutions out of town.

NA 10-17-14

NORTH ADAMS COUNCIL OPPOSES TENNESSEE GAS PIPELINE (NA)

The North Adams City Council has joined a growing group of municipalities opposing the proposed \$4 billion Tennessee Gas Pipeline through the state. IBerkshires.com reports that a cautious City Council previously delayed a resolution against the controversial Tennessee Gas Pipeline. However, after the Public Services Committee discussed the issue and unanimously agreed with the resolution the council followed suit. Although it passed the resolution did not go through unanimously, Councilors Keith Bona and Nancy Bullet voted against the resolution because they felt there was not enough information and that they were interfering with a process that does not affect the city. Councilor Lisa Blackmer abstained from voting and Jenifer Breen was absent from the meeting.

ADAMS GALLERY PUTTING ON PLAY BASED ON LOCAL MILL WORKERS (NA)

The 5 Hoosac Street gallery in Adams will feature the play "Maids in the Mills" this weekend. Author Peter Bergman said the play, originally showed in 2004 in Pittsfield, is based on the history of women immigrants who worked in Pittsfield's woolen mills. It follows the lives and mistreatment of Polish and Irish immigrant women in the mills and spans from 1870 to 1912. The one act play will show tonight and tomorrow night at 7:30.

CHESHIRE WOMAN ALLEGEDLY STOLE \$80K FROM FAMILY MEMBER'S SAFE (NA, P)

A Cheshire woman accused of stealing about \$80,000 from a family member remains free after pleading not guilty to four felonies. According to Dalton Police, 35 year old Kelly O'Laughlin, of Willow Cove, allegedly broke into the Dalton home of a family member on September 4th and stole the cash from a safe located inside the house. O'Laughlin pleaded not guilty in Berkshire Superior Court on Tuesday to two counts of felony receiving stolen property over \$250 and single counts of breaking and entering in the daytime for a felony and larceny from a building. She was released on personal recognizance with the condition she have no contact with the alleged victims. A pretrial hearing was scheduled for January 20th.

BERKSHIRE BATTALION KICK OFF SEASON TONIGHT (NA-interest)

Berkshire Battalion, the Berkshires new professional hockey team based in North Adams, will get its inaugural season underway tonight. The team will take the ice at the Peter W. Foote Vietnam Veterans Memorial Skating Rink for its first-ever game against the Southwest Pennsylvania Magic at 7:30.

SCARECROWS ON THE MOHAWK TRAIL (NA)

More than 120 scarecrows will be popping up all along the 63 miles of Mohawk Trail from Williamstown east to Athol this weekend. The Berkshire Eagle reports that Chambers of commerce all along the trail have been collaborating on the Scarecrow Project to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the opening of the Mohawk Trail to motorists. Workshops have been set up to help folks make their scarecrows. Dozens of businesses have been making scarecrows to highlight their locations on or near the Mohawk Trail, and even some families are getting in on the fun. Nearly 130 businesses, clubs, or individuals have registered to make scarecrows and more are coming.

NA 10-22-14

V & V LICENSE TRANSFER ADOPTED (NA)

The North Adams License Commission yesterday approved a retail liquor license transfer to V&V, also known as Steeple City Spirits. Pending state approval, the transfer of the all-alcohol license from River Street Package Store brings to a close a contentious chapter in the city's business community.

PEDA CHIEF SAYS SPRINGFIELD RAIL CAR CONTRACT BENEFITS BERKSHIRES (All)

While PEDAs Executive Director Corydon Thurston is disappointed the William Stanley Business Park won't be the manufacturing site for the new Red and Orange Line cars, he says the plan to build them in Springfield will still be a benefit to the Berkshires. Governor Patrick announced this week that CNR Changchun was being recommended for the contract with the intentions to bring 250 jobs to a former Westinghouse plant. Berkshires.com reports that CNR is proposing to build a brand-new 150,000 square-foot North American headquarters and make Springfield its permanent home. Thurston says it's a critical investment in the future of public transportation in Greater Boston and in the economic well-being of Western Massachusetts.

LIHEAP FUNDS TO AID BERKSHIRE RESIDENTS (All)

The recent release of nearly \$132 million of federal heating assistance funds will help thousands of Berkshire residents, but it likely won't keep pace with their rising fuel and electricity bills. The Berkshire Eagle reports that Massachusetts will receive \$8 million less than last year in Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, or LIHEAP. Overall, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has released \$3.05 billion in LIHEAP funding, compared to the total of \$3.5 billion a year ago. Berkshire Community Action Council says that reduction, coupled with the anticipated 30 to 40 percent spike in utility rates and a likely increase in natural gas and oil prices, isn't nearly sufficient for those lining up for LIHEAP money.

LOCAL JOBLESS RATE TICKS UP (All)

Berkshire County unemployment exceeded the 6 percent threshold in September for the first time in four months. The state Office of Labor and Workforce Development says the number of unemployed county workers increased slightly last month, but the county's total labor force decreased by more than 1,200 workers. According to the figures released yesterday, the local jobless rate ticked up from 5.7 percent in August to 6.1 percent in September. State unemployment is currently 6 percent, slightly higher than the national rate of 5.9 percent.

COAKLEY AND BAKER DEBATE ISSUES LAST NIGHT (All)

Democrat gubernatorial candidate Martha Coakley and her Republican challenger, Charlie Baker sparred on jobs, schools and services for families and children in a televised debate last night. Coakley says if elected, she would focus on building a sustainable economy from the ground up, while Baker says he would focus on strengthening local economies in struggling parts of the state. The Three independent candidates, Even Falchuck, Jeff McCormick and Scott Lively were not included in last night's debate.

NA 10-24-14

HADLEY OVERPASS SURPASSES ORIGINAL CONSTRUCTION ESTIMATES (NA)

The reconstruction of the Hadley Overpass in North Adams has exceeded its projected completion date as well as its initial cost estimate. Costs to repair to the span have surpassed the state's initial estimate of \$28.1 million by \$6.8 million. It was initially projected to be completed in 2012. The overhaul began in 2008.

BMC GETS \$3 MILLION GRANT (NA, P)

Berkshire Medical Center has received a \$3 million state grant to continue its expansion of health care services in the Northern Berkshires, which it will match with \$13 million of its own. The Berkshire Eagle reports, the funding will be used at its Northern Berkshires Campus to create a "Patient-Centered Medical Neighborhood," which hospital officials say will aim to empower patients to manage their own health and improve preventative care through an innovative network of health care providers. The expansion of these services, slated to begin in 2015, is designed to align with health care needs of North County identified in a recent state-commissioned report by Maine-based Stroudwater Associates.

FINANCIAL FIRM MOVING TO NORTH ADAMS (NA)

One of the nation's fastest growing financial firms is shifting its base of operations from Williamstown to North Adams. IBerkshires.com reports that Atlas Wealth Management, formerly Dion Money Management, is moving its 20 employees to the third-floor of the former Wall-Streeter Shoe Company building on Union Street owned by David Moresi. Atlas is an independent wealth management firm and part of Focus Financial Partners LLC. It offers wealth and investment management, financial planning and some tax services. Financial Advisor magazine ranked it 15th in its fastest growing firms list.

ADAMS SEEKS FIX TO VISITORS CENTER'S INEFFECTIVE GEOTHERMAL SYSTEM (NA)

The Adams Board of Selectmen is looking at a \$22,800 interim solution to fix the Visitors Center's troublesome geothermal heating and cooling system. IBerkshires.com reports that the board met with interim Town Administrator Donna Cesan, the building Commissioner, the Council on Aging Director and the project engineers during Wednesday night's workshop meeting to discuss possible remedies for the notoriously difficult HVAC system. The board didn't vote on the matter, but Chairman Arthur "Skip" Harrington said no matter what issues they find, they must make the building usable.

NORTH ADAMS TO WILLIAMSTOWN BIKE PATH PUBLIC MEETING SET (NA)

Plans are moving forward for a new bike path section between North Adams' center and the Williamstown town line. The city of North Adams and the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission will host a public meeting on Wednesday next week from 6 to 8pm at Greylock Elementary School to discuss a draft route. There will be a brief presentation at 6:30pm. Mohawk Bicycle Pedestrian Trail will be designed by the BRPC and a community outreach committee will be established to keep affected property owners and other interested parties informed. The eventual goal is to link the Berkshires from border to border.

NA 10-28-14

PITTSFIELD MAN SENTENCED IN FED CHILD PORN CASE (P – All)

A Pittsfield man has been sentenced to 50 years in federal prison for recording himself raping three girls under age 13 and making sexually explicit photographs of a 2-year-old. Thirty-four-year-old Jason Gendron was sentenced yesterday by U.S. District Judge William Young, who said he has never seen a case that descended to such "depths of depravity." Gendron pleaded guilty in July to 16 counts of sexual exploitation of minors by producing pornography and one count of possessing child pornography. Prosecutors said the girls in the 16 video clips were between the ages of 3 and 13. All the children were in his direct care. Gendron pleaded guilty this month to related state child rape and indecent assault charges. He is expected to be sentenced tomorrow to at least 25 years to be served concurrently with the federal sentence.

WILLIAMSTOWN BOARD ENDOSES HOSPITAL RESOLUTION (NA)

The Williamstown Board of Selectmen yesterday approved a resolution promoting the return of inpatient services at the former North Adams Regional Hospital. IBerkshires.com reports that a group representing activists who have been working to reopen the shuttered hospital since its closure in March attended the meeting yesterday, as did a representative of the Massachusetts Nurses Association, who told the board that inpatient facilities in North Adams would be economically sustainable. Individual members of the board expressed sympathy with the plight of residents who have been affected by the loss of services at the North Adams facility, and the board unanimously passed a resolution expressing the town's support the expansion of services currently offered by the former hospital's new owner, Berkshire Health Systems.

WILLIAMS COLLEGE GETS OK FOR SOLAR INSTALLATION (NA)

Williams College has the green light to use sunlight to produce electricity on Simonds Road. The Williamstown Zoning Board of Appeals this month gave its blessing to a 500-kilowatt photovoltaic installation near its library shelving facility, located a mile and a half north of campus near the intersection of Simonds Road and Sand Springs Road. The board's approval of the project was conditioned on a couple of accommodations to improve the view from the Cozy Corner Motel I, located across Route 7 to the east of the college's property.

NORTH ADAMS CUMBERLAND FARMS HOLDS GRAND OPENING (NA)

North Adams Cumberland Farms held its latest grand opening in the Berkshires yesterday afternoon and kicked off a fundraiser for the North Adams Youth Football League. IBerkshires.com reports that Robert Lemaire, president of the league, cut the bright green ribbon to officially open the doors on the 4,500 square foot store, which opened for business about a month ago on Curran Highway. The fundraiser runs through November 24th at the Curran Highway location only and applies to dispensed drinks — Chill Zone and coffees. The company typically holds its grand openings in conjunction with a local fundraiser.

CHILD RAPE SUSPECT CAPTURED (All)

According to State Police, a child-rape suspect who committed crimes across the country after snipping off his court-ordered ankle bracelet had an "ultimate goal" of returning to Massachusetts to kill his 13-year-old accuser. That statement was released just hours after his capture. Police said 26 year old Gregory Lewis, of Southbridge, spent six weeks on the run after cutting off the GPS monitoring device ordered by a judge following his arraignment in August on charges that included statutory rape of a child. Lewis is suspected of committing a string of rapes, kidnappings and robberies of female escorts in North Carolina, Colorado and Oregon.

EDUCATION SECRETARY TOURS LANESBOROUGH, HANCOCK SCHOOLS (All)

Keeping up with the ever-changing technological world is something that even the county's top performing schools struggle with. IBerkshires.com is reporting that is what school officials from those districts told state Secretary of Education Matt Malone during his four-school trip to the Berkshires yesterday. After a stop at Lenox High School, Malone moved on to the 44-student Hancock Elementary School and then Lanesborough Elementary School before concluding his trip at Kittredge School in Hinsdale. Lanesborough was ranked a Level 1 this year based on standardized test scores.

2 YEARS FOR TRIPLE MURDER WITNESS (All)

A fellow inmate of David Chalue who testified against him at his triple murder trial has been sentenced to two years in jail on gun charges. 30 year old Christopher Letalien, of North Adams, pleaded guilty in Berkshire Superior Court on Wednesday to four charges in connection with the theft of a .40 caliber pistol from his parents' North Adams home in June 2011. According to the Berkshire DA's Office, Letalien called police to report a break-in and theft at the house, claiming he had returned to his parents' home to find the safe open and the gun gone. It was later determined Letalien had been buying crack cocaine from Jeffrey Philpot Jr., who had asked Letalien about procuring a handgun. Philpot, a Bloods gang member, according to police, went to the house, broke into the safe, took the gun and paid Letalien for his help in drugs. Philpot was later sentenced to a two- to four-year state prison sentence for his role in the caper.

ADAMS PLANNERS APPROVE BOND, SCREENING FOR EAST ROAD ARRAY (NA)

The Adams Planning Board has approved financial surety and planting buffers for the controversial East Road private solar array despite continued questions of its legality by abutters. IBerkshires.com reports that planners met on Tuesday with Seth Ginsberg of Apis Energy Group LLC, developer of the 1.5-megawatt array, to discuss conditions put on the project by the Zoning Board of Appeals, as outlined by the Community Development Office. The board accepted a performance bond of \$100,000, which will be released upon the completion and approval of the solar array. It also approved a surety of \$30,000 for the removal of the solar array in the future.

NA 11-03-14

NORTH ADAMS APARTMENT FIRE FORCES FAMILIES OUT (NA)

Five families were forced from their homes yesterday after the rearmost unit in a North Adams River Street apartment building caught fire. IBerkshires.com reports that according to Fire Director Stephen Meranti, firefighters responded to the smoke alarm activation, which came in at about 3:13pm. Firefighters were informed en route that there was confirmed smokes and flames coming from the building at the corner of Loftus and River streets. All off-duty firefighters were called in. Firefighters found a blaze on the first floor had moved up the wall into the attic area in the back unit of the two-story structure. The unit received extensive water and smoke damage, although firefighters did what they could to cover the items inside. Power was cut to all the apartments and tenants were expected to be helped by the Red Cross.

OFFICIALS HOPE TO HAVE INTERIM SUPERINTENDANT IN PLACE BY DEC. 1 (NA)

Williamstown School officials hope to have an interim superintendent in place by December 1st to replace retiring Superintendent Rose Ellis. The Berkshire Eagle reports several elected school officials on the Administrative Review Subcommittee, consisting of officials from the Williamstown-Lanesborough school committees, met on Friday to discuss the general process moving forward. The entity is charged with finding an interim superintendent from inside or outside the district. Officials initially hoped to have a full-time superintendent in place by January, but job postings now say an applicant could start by July 2015.

HEALY HEARS CONCERNS ON HOSPITAL (NA)

Attorney general candidate Maura Healey has promised to follow through if elected on issues raised by the closure of North Adams Regional Hospital. The Democrat took a detour from heavy campaigning during the last few days before the election to meet with more than two dozen activists and residents about the region's health care issues. The hospital closed in late March with the bankruptcy of Northern Berkshire Healthcare.

MOUNT GREYLOCK CANDIDATES MAKE CASE (NA)

The electorate in Williamstown and Lanesborough will have a tough decision to make in the ballot box on Tuesday. IBerkshires.com reports however that the candidates they have to choose from would be the first to tell the voters: They can't go wrong. Three candidates are standing for two of the four-year seats available for Williamstown's representation on the Mount Greylock Regional School District Committee. Voters in both of the district's member towns cast ballots in all races for the School Committee. By rule, three members of the seven-person committee reside in the town of Lanesborough, and the rest live in Williamstown.

CANDIDATE KERRIGAN STOPS IN PITTSFIELD (P – Interest)

Democratic lieutenant governor candidate Steve Kerrigan says the Republican Party's "ground game" is what is going to make the difference in a very tight gubernatorial race. Kerrigan was in Pittsfield Friday as part of his final push efforts. Kerrigan was greeted in Pittsfield by state Sen. Ben Downing, state Reps. Tricia Farley-Bouvier and Paul Mark, and Mayor Daniel Bianchi.

NA 11-05-14

GREEN AND PENNER WILL IN SCHOOL COMMITTEE RACE (NA)

Voters in Williamstown and Lanesborough voted yesterday to return Mount Greylock Regional School Committee Chairwoman Carolyn Greene to her seat on the committee. IBerkshires.com reports that Greene was one of three candidates vying for two of the Williamstown seats on the panel, which is elected by voters in both member towns of the junior-senior high school district. Wendy Penner will join Greene on the committee after defeating Steven Miller in the race. Greene was the top vote-getter in both towns, receiving 503 votes in Lanesborough and 1,752 in Williamstown for a total of 2,255. Penner received 1,417 votes, and Miller received 1,238, a margin of 179.

R.I. MAN GETS TIME SERVED IN FATAL 2013 ACCIDENT IN WILLIAMSTOWN (NA)

A Rhode Island man was given time served — a little less than a year — yesterday after pleading guilty in connection with a fatal car crash on Rt. 7 in Williamstown last year that took the life of 64-year-old Lawrence George of Pownal. 35 year old William Lowe, of Pawtucket, R.I., was sentenced to a total of two years in jail with 343 days to be served (the time he had already spent in jail unable to make bail) with the rest of the time suspended for a year, during which time he will be on probation. He must attend any recommended counseling and stay away from drugs and alcohol with random testing during the probation period. Lowe pleaded guilty in Berkshire Superior Court yesterday to misdemeanor vehicular homicide and operating to endanger and possessing an open container of alcohol.

MAN HELD ON \$100K BAIL IN GUNPOINT HEIST OF CUMBERLAND FARMS (NA)

A New Bedford man is being held on \$100,000 cash bail for allegedly robbing the Cumberland Farms on Union Street in North Adams at gunpoint last month. 25 year old Geraldo Martell was arrested on a warrant yesterday after police allegedly matched his fingerprints to those left on the store's cash register during the heist, shortly before midnight on September 10th. Martell, wearing a skull mask to obstruct his face, allegedly pointed a gun at the store clerk before reaching into the register bare-handed and making off with \$220. Martell had a plea of not guilty entered on his behalf in Northern Berkshire District Court yesterday to charges of armed robbery. He faces a potential sentence of five years to life in state prison.

ADAM LEE HALL CO-DEFENDANTS IN 2010 CASE CLEARED OF CHARGES (All)

Three witnesses who testified against Adam Lee Hall in his triple murder trial have been cleared of charges in a 2010 fake armed robbery in which they were implicated. The Berkshire Eagle reports that the Berkshire District Attorney's Office dropped the charges against Scott Langdon, Nicole Brooks and Alexandra Ely, who participated in the scheme cooked up by Hall to discredit David Glasser of Pittsfield who later would become one of his murder victims. A fourth defendant, Brittany Beggs, who also has a son by Hall, and had been charged with a number of crimes, also had her charges dropped.

NA 11-06-14

CHESHIRE OFFICIALS REQUEST GUARD RAILS FOR RESTAURANT (NA, P)

Town officials in Cheshire are hoping to help a local eatery keep motorists from using it as a drive-through. IBerkshires.com reports that Bass Water Grill on South State Road has been hit at least twice by motor vehicles, most recently this weekend. Selectwoman Carol Francesconi said collisions happen too frequently and it is incredibly dangerous. Her suggestion is that a guard rail along the front of the building might help. Executive Chef Ed Bassi said yesterday that someone made a hard right into the building, and the damage was equal to if not worse than the first time it happened.

NORTH ADAMS SETS TREE LIGHTING FOR NOV. 26 (NA)

North Adams City crews took advantage of the nice weather yesterday to install this year's Christmas trees at the ends of Main Street. IBerkshires.com reports that the 24-foot blue spruce at the top of Main was lowered into place shortly after noon. The tree was donated by Robert Senger of Braytonville Garage. The second tree by City Hall was donated by Pat and Leon Lescarbeau of River Street in memory of the late Francis Denault of Clarksburg. The annual Tree-Lighting Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, November 26th, on Thanksgiving eve, with a visit from Mr. and Mrs. Clause. The Drury High band will provide music, and there will be caroling and goodie bags from Santa. The event is being sponsored by Berkshire Bank. The tree-lighting also kicks off the Hometown Holiday events, which will include various promotions and encouragements for shopping and dining downtown.

SOLAR NOT DEAD IN WILLIAMSTOWN (NA)

Anyone who missed out on Solarize Mass might still have a shot at getting solar power and solar savings piped into their homes using a new strategy being proposed by the COOL Committee and the Center for Eco-Technology. The concept is to group 10 to 12 homeowners together to partner in a mini-solar farm on land nearby, with the solar power and savings to be split among the member homes, according to Nancy Nylen, associate director at CET and member of the COOL Committee. The committee is hosting a meeting on the idea of Community Solar at 6:30 tonight, at the Williamstown Youth Center, at 66 School Street, to further explain the concept and gauge interest.

ADAMS WOMAN PLEADS GUILTY TO HOME BREAK-IN (NA)

An Adams woman pleaded guilty yesterday in Berkshire Superior Court to several charges. 23 year old Alyssa Wylde plead guilty to one count of larceny from a building and one count of malicious destruction of personal property in connection with a break into a home in Adams between September 13th and November 5th of last year. Judge John Agostini ordered that Wylde serve an 18 month sentence at the Berkshire County House of Correction on the charge of larceny of a building. She was given one year probation on the other charge on the condition she undergo alcohol and drug counseling and stays away from the victim and his residence.

CATS ANNOUNCING NEW GENERAL MANAGER (NA)

The North Adams SteepleCats will be holding a press conference today at 2 p.m. to announce the appointment of their new General Manager. The announcement will be held in the Law Offices of DeRosa/Dohoney in Building One at MassMoCA, 87 Marshall Street in North Adams. The new General Manager, a former Major League pitcher will take questions and talk about the upcoming season. League President John DeRosa will also be making remarks as well as other team officials. The North Adams SteepleCats are entering their 14th season in the prestigious New England Collegiate Baseball League, one of the premier collegiate leagues in the country.

NA 11-10-14

NORTH ADAMS FRIENDLY'S CLOSED SUNDAY (NA)

The Friendly's Restaurant on State Road North Adams has closed for the final time. IBerkshires.com reports that Regan Communications, the company's spokesman, confirmed yesterday that the restaurant would close "in anticipation of the expiration of its lease." Rumors have been rampant that the landmark restaurant would close either yesterday or today. The closure comes at the end of a couple bad weeks for smaller city businesses. 'Luma's Muffin & Mug' closed last month; 'I Got Goodies' and 'Once Around the Block' also announced their closures, citing rent prices and space size. Both the latter businesses plan to continue their operations from home and online.

OBAMA PRAISES ADAMS VET (NA)

President Barack Obama has some high praise for World War II veteran Frank Presnal. The Berkshire Eagle reports that in a letter dated September 24th, the commander-in-chief thanked the Adams native for risking his life to protect America and preserve democracy, saying he is among a generation of heroes who, "amidst the harshest of circumstances, helped free a continent from the grasp of tyranny and change the course of an entire century." The 93 year old Presnal is the average age of the 1 million surviving World War II veterans still alive across the country — about 24,000 in Massachusetts — out of the 16.1 million who served in the U.S. Armed Forces from 1939 to 1945, according to the National World War II Museum in New Orleans.

NORTHERN BERKSHIRE HABITAT MARKS COMPLETION OF LATEST HOME (NA)

Nearly a dozen volunteers were gathered at the West Shaft Road house of Alison Rice Saturday to celebrate the latest completion of a Northern Berkshire Habitat for Humanity project. IBerkshires.com reports that work on the home started last year. Rice was selected to participate in the program in fall 2013. By that time the structure had been selected and gutted. The three-bedroom home is a big step up from her former apartment off East Quincy. The Northern Berkshire chapter has built or renovated 10 homes over the past 24 years. Rice's new renovated home is next to a couple others done by Habitat in the past.

CHESHIRE SELECTMEN WONDERING ABOUT DOLLAR GENERAL (NA, P)

Town officials in Cheshire are trying to figure out the intentions of Dollar General. The discount chain store indicated its interest earlier this year in purchasing the derelict historic property at the corner of West Mountain Road and Route 8 to put up another store. Town Administrator Mark Webber told the Selectmen on Tuesday night that he was contacted by the store officials recently about access from Route 8 to the property. He said they have yet to respond to his reply. The chain's representatives got permitting forms last month but did not apply for a building permit at that time. Selectman Robert Ciskowski suggested that Dollar general is "testing" Cheshire.

NA 11-12-14

VETERANS DAY OBSERVANCES YESTERDAY (P, NA)

The cities of Pittsfield and North Adams – and the town of Adams were among communities that observed Veteran' Day with parades and ceremonies yesterday. The City of Pittsfield's Parade led to the Peace Memorial on Veteran's Way where a ceremony was held. Opening remarks were given by Pittsfield Mayor Dan Bianchi and Cpl. Michael Ancora from the Marine Corps League Detachment #137 was the guest speaker. The City of North Adams held its ceremony at the Veterans Memorial at the conclusion of its parade. Marine Col. Allan M. Faxon Jr., chief operating officer of the Vermont Veterans Home in Bennington, was the guest speaker. And the Adams American Legion Post 160 held a ceremony at the Adams Town Hall yesterday.

WILLIAMSTOWN HOUSING COMMITTEE REWRITING MISSION STATEMENT (NA)

The Williamstown Affordable Housing Committee is in the process of redefining its mission in light of an eventful year for the committee and the issue it addresses. IBerkshires.com reports that the committee and the board of the Affordable Housing Trust met in late October in separate meetings. The latter voted to release funds it promised earlier this year to the Highland Woods senior housing project off Southworth Street on land being donated by Williams College. The committee will take up the draft mission statement at its next meeting tomorrow.

MOUNT GREYLOCK TOWER TO UNDERGO \$2 MILLION RENOVATION (NA)

The War Memorial Tower at the top of Mount Greylock will receive a \$2 million upgrade. Gov. Deval Patrick announced yesterday the release of \$1.2 million from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs, which will be matched with an \$800,000 federal earmark. The tower has been closed to the public since August of 2013. The tower was constructed in 1931 and now the mortar joints are deteriorated, and the interior finishes and utilities were damaged by water. The water damage ultimately led to the closing of the tower. The state Department of Conservation and Recreation will also spend \$300,000 in making repairs to Bascom Lodge.

MOUNT GREYLOCK REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL PROJECT FEASIBILITY STUDY (NA)

School officials are making progress in carrying out a feasibility study that will determine the future of Mount Greylock Regional High School. The Berkshire Eagle reports that the School Building Committee last week met for the first time with representatives from Dore and Whittier Management Partners of Newburyport, which will serve as project manager and provide oversight during the feasibility study. Voters in Lanesborough and Williamstown, towns making up the grades 7-12 regional school district, voted to fund \$850,000 for a feasibility study at separate town meetings this spring. Building inadequacies of concern to school officials include energy inefficiencies, non-ADA compliant spaces, and a sprawling campus designed to serve a population twice the size of its current enrollment.

NA 11-14-14

GOVERNOR IN NORTH ADAMS FOR MASS MOCA ANNOUNCEMENT MONDAY (NA)

MASS MoCA in North Adams will hold a special press conference on Monday at 11am to announce the Patrick Administration's recent execution of a capital infrastructure investment bill, which includes more than \$25,000,000 for MASS MoCA's Phase III development. Governor Deval Patrick will remark about public funding for the arts and its relationship to economic and community development in general and North Adams specifically. Museum staff will outline programming plans and introduce long-term collaborators slated for the Phase III renovations. And an announcement will be made regarding private fund-raising related to Phase III programs and facility renovations.

CLARKSBURG OVERNIGHT PARKING BAN ALREADY IN EFFECT (NA)

The Clarksburg Board of Selectmen has placed an overnight parking ban on all town roads and streets effective immediately. The ban will stay in effect until April 15th. No overnight parking will be allowed between the hours of 10pm and 6am. Absolutely No Parking on town roads and streets during any snowstorms will be permitted. Offenders will be ticketed and the vehicle towed at the owner's expense. The Board and the Highway Department says that it appreciates citizen cooperation during the winter months.

NORTH ADAMS FRIENDLY'S CLOSES (NA)

After 50 years, the Friendly's restaurant on State Road has closed its doors for good, but the company said it is trying to find work at other locations for the affected employees. Customers arriving Sunday morning for breakfast were greeted with locked doors and a sign encouraging them to visit other locations in Pittsfield, Lenox, Lee and Bennington. The North Adams Friendly's, a local institution since 1964, employed about 24 people at the time of its closing.

TANGLEWOOD ANNOUNCED 2015 CONCERT SEASON (All)

Tanglewood in Lenox is planning on a wide offering of music for its 2015 concert season which was announced yesterday. The Boston Symphony's new Music Director Andris Nelsons and a 75th anniversary celebration of the Tanglewood Music Center will highlight the season – and the Popular Artists Series will not disappoint either. 88 year old Tony Bennett and pop star Lady Gaga will be performing on June 30th in support of the album they recorded together entitled "Cheek to Cheek." Other performances announced so far in the Popular Artists series include the return of jazz-pop singer and pianist Diana Krall, in support of her upcoming album "Wallflower" on June 21st. And as part of their "While Were Young" tour, Huey Lewis and the News will make their Tanglewood debut on June 28th. If there are going to be any James Taylor performances, they haven't been announced as of yet – but there are still open dates throughout the concert season.

NA 11-17-14

MESSY WEATHER FOR MORNI COMMUTE (All)

Morning commuters are facing slick road conditions due to a mix of snow, sleet and freezing rain. The National Weather Service office in Albany, N.Y. has a winter weather advisory in effect until 1pm today. According to NWS forecasters, all precipitation should change to rain early this afternoon, before tapering off by evening. Two storms systems, one arriving from the Great Lakes region, the other coming up the coast, will merge to the north creating the messy weather.

GOV. PATRICK TO CHAMPION \$25.4 MILLION INVESTMENT IN MASS MOCA EXPANSION (NA)

Gov. Deval Patrick will be in North Adams today to champion the state's \$25.4 million investment in a new round of development at the Massachusetts Museum of Contemporary Art. The governor also will be in Lenox to herald projects, including environmental work on Baker's Pond in Kennedy Park and athletic fields at Berkshire Community College in Pittsfield. The museum funding, passed by the Legislature and signed into law earlier this year, will lead to the expansion of more than 130,000 square feet of space at Mass MoCA by 2016. It's the third and final phase of renovations to the museum, which opened in 1999 and attracts more than 120,000 visitors every year.

WILLIAMSTOWN AUCTIONS ABANDONED SPRUCES TRAILERS (NA)

Four Williamstown -owned mobile homes from the soon-to-be-closed Spruces Mobile Home Park were sold at auction on Friday for a combined \$2,725. IBerkshires.com reports that nine more trailers were available in a silent auction that closed on Friday afternoon, but the final results of that process are not yet available. In all, the town has taken possession of 50 trailers at the park since it began the process of closing it under the terms of a federal Hazard Mitigation Grant. Not all of the homes are in salable condition. The homes were left behind by residents who have begun to vacate the park. An additional 31 trailers have been abandoned since Tropical Storm Irene in 2011.

NORTH ADAMS TO USE GRANT MONEY FOR CAPITAL EXPENSES (NA)

City officials in North Adams are proposing to use the one-time \$750,000 grant from the state to address a host of capital needs. The city has compiled a list of \$1.762 million in needs ranging from plow trucks to playgrounds to heating systems. IBerkshires.com reports that Mayor Richard Alcombright told the Finance Committee on Thursday that he is proposing to cover \$767,610 of those capital items using the state grant and other sources, such as city's \$141,000 in free cash. The \$750,000 was approved by the Legislature in recognition of the loss of Northern Berkshire Healthcare and its 500 jobs.

ADAMS SELECTMEN UPDATING BUSINESS RECRUITMENT PLANS (NA)

The Board of Selectmen in Adams is brainstorming ways to recruit and retain businesses. The board on Wednesday reviewed the 80-page Downtown Development created in 2003 to help Adams create a more vibrant downtown. Chairman Arthur Harrington said it is important for the town to re-evaluate the document and see where Adams stands now. Interim Town Administrator Donna Cesan said Adams has accomplished many of the goals in the plan but has fallen short on bringing business to Adams.

WILLIAMSTOWN'S MATHER HOUSE MOVES TO NEW LOCATION (NA)

Williamstown traffic came to halt for several hours yesterday morning as the 1840 Mather House made its way up Main Street and around the corner at Field Park. IBerkshires.com reports that the move of the 170-year-old building in two pieces required the closure of Route 2 west of Spring Street and removal of the phone and electrical wires that crossed Stetson Court, where the house has been since being relocated in 2002. Spectators gathered in the chilly temperatures to take pictures of the structures making their way down Main Street. Street signs had to be removed and a few tree limbs cut to make way for the two-story house. The move had been scheduled for Monday but was postponed because of wet, snowy weather.

AREA RESPONDERS READY FOR EBOLA CASES (ALL)

Berkshire Medical Center and area first-responders aren't naive enough to think an Ebola patient can't come here. IBerkshires.com reports that over the last six weeks, they have been making sure they know what to do if that happens. Now, area responders have plans right from start. A protocol has been developed for dispatchers with certain questions as to help determine if the caller is a suspected Ebola case. From there, a system to alert the responders, state Department of Health and the hospital has been arranged. Berkshire County has an advantage to other parts of the state in that there are fewer numbers of responders so ensuring everyone is on the same page is easier. All three of the county's emergency facilities are under Berkshire Medical Center's umbrella so the procedures are the same at all three.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE PREPS FOR SUPERINTENDENT UNCERTAINTY (NA)

Williamstown Elementary School Committee has set a special meeting for Monday, November 24th, but it hopes not to need it. IBerkshires.com reports that the committee, at its monthly meeting last week, discussed what would happen if the Tri-District partnership of Williamstown and Lanesborough public schools cannot agree on an interim superintendent when it meets on Friday afternoon at Mount Greylock Regional School. The partner in question is Lanesborough Elementary School, one of three legs of the Tri-District along with Williamstown and Mount Greylock, the junior-senior high school fed by both towns' elementary schools. Throughout this year, Lanesborough's continued participation in SU71 has been in doubt. Two members of the three-person Lanesborough School Committee are on record advocating for the school's withdrawal.

WILLIAMSTOWN PLANNERS MULL ZONING CHANGE FOR COLLEGE HOTEL (NA)

Williamstown's Spring Street business community turned out in force on Tuesday evening to support a request to expand the Village Business zoning district to accommodate Williams College's plan for a new hotel. IBerkshires reports, the Planning Board held a public listening session to get feedback on the proposal, which would allow the college to build a facility with up to 100 guest rooms at the south end of the commercial district and, ultimately, close the Williams Inn at the junction of Routes 2 and 7. The college, which always owned the land on which the Williams Inn sits, purchased the note on the business earlier this year and facilitated the retirement of former owners Carl and Marilyn Faulkner. The college brought in Stockbridge-based Main Street Hospitality Group to manage the inn.

NA 11-24-14

ADAMS HIRES NEW TOWN ADMINISTRATOR FROM MAINE (AN)

The Adams Board of Selectmen unanimously voted on Saturday morning to hire a town administrator with experience in public and private management. IBerkshires.com reports that Tony Mazzucco, assistant city manager of Caribou, Maine, and a native of Randolph, was the third and final candidate interviewed. The board made its decision shortly after speaking with him Saturday morning. Mazzucco said he comes from an area that is similar to Adams and has similar challenges.

LOUISON HOUSE 25TH ANNIVERSARY FETES NAMESAKE (NA)

Louison House namesake Theresa Louison was honored for her contributions to the Northern Berkshire community and especially to the cause of solving homelessness in the region last week. Louison was surrounded by nearly 50 friends and family at the Adams Council on Aging on Thursday as part of a celebration marking 25 years since Louison House and the Family Life Support Center opened. The agency, focused on homelessness and its causes, has assisted thousands of residents in its history.

CLARKSBURG CONSIDERS TWO POSSIBLE SOLAR ARRAYS (NA)

Clarksburg is considering a municipal solar array on the former landfill. The Selectmen on Monday were also updated on a proposal for the development of a private array on Gravel Bank Road. IBerkshires.com reports that Town Administrator Carl McKinney informed the board that he plans to apply for a state Clean Energy Resiliency Initiative grant that will pay for technical consulting of a 77-acre parcel of town-owned land. McKinney said the parcel extends from the Department of Public Works building on West Cross Road north to the old dump. A solar array would be placed on the capped landfill and some of the land could possibly be developed for public use.

WILLIAMSTOWN-LANESBOROUGH TRI-DISTRICT PICKS INTERIM SUPERINTENDENT (NA)

Gordon Noseworthy of Northampton has been selected as the interim superintendent of Williamstown and Lanesborough schools. The one-time interim Pittsfield superintendent was picked over two other candidates on Friday afternoon in a meeting of the Mount Greylock Regional School Committee and Superintendency Union 71, a combination of Lanesborough Elementary and Williamstown Elementary. Noseworthy won out largely because committee members thought he had the political acumen to handle the contentious relationship between the rest of the Tri-District and the Lanesborough School Committee.

STAMFORD MAN SENTENCED TWO YEARS PROBATION FOR RECKLESS ENDANGERMENT (NA)

A Stamford VT man was sentenced to two years of probation on last week in the criminal division of Bennington Superior Court, for a reckless endangerment charge, following some jail time served for an incident that took place in August. 33 year old Christopher Crockwell was accused of smashing the side mirror of a sport utility vehicle with a baseball bat, while his girlfriend and her children were inside. The altercation came after an argument the couple had regarding Crockwell's alcohol intake earlier that day. In 2013, Crockwell threatened two men with a gun. He was ordered by the court that he not consume any alcohol, be electronically monitored, meet all terms set by his probation officer, and to attend alcohol and mental health counseling.

SNOW STORM TO HIT THE BERKSHIRES HARD (All)

The Berkshires is poised to get walloped by a wintry nor'easter today, making one of the heaviest travel days of the year troublesome at best. The National Weather Service is predicting upwards of 10 inches for Berkshire County – and maybe as much as 15 or 16 inches. Slightly less is predicted for the North Adams area. A winter-storm warning remains in effect until 7am tomorrow. Other forecasters anticipated anywhere from 7 to 12 inches, since ocean storms are notoriously difficult to track a day in advance. The snow is expected to spread from south to north across the area and could be mixed with rain at the onset. The snow will be heaviest during the afternoon into the evening with the snow tapering off late tonight. This storm will significantly impact holiday travel... Making driving dangerous at times with snow covered roads and poor visibilities. Isolated power outages will be possible where the heaviest snow occurs.

BRTA BUSES NOT RUNNING ON THANKSGIVING (All)

The Berkshire Regional Transit Authority will not be running buses on Thanksgiving Day tomorrow. The offices in Pittsfield will also be closed in observance of the holiday. The regular schedule of service will resume on Friday morning, but the administrative offices will remain closed until Monday at 8am.

UNEMPLOYMENT LOWEST IN SIX YEARS (All)

The Berkshire County unemployment rate dropped precipitously in October, reaching its lowest level in six years. According to figures released yesterday by the state Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development, the county jobless rate fell more than a percentage point, from 6.1 percent in September to 5.0 percent. It's the lowest Berkshire unemployment has been this year; the previous low was 5.5 percent in May. Overall, Berkshire unemployment is at its lowest level since October 2008, when it reached 4.9 percent.

CLARKSBURG MAN FACES DRUG CHARGES AFTER LEADING POLICE ON FOOT CHASE (NA)

A Clarksburg man with four warrants for his arrest was being held on \$50,000 bail after leading state police on a foot chase through the woods of Savoy on Friday following a routine traffic stop. 30 year old Aaron Rowett pleaded not guilty in Northern Berkshire District Court on Friday on charges of resisting arrest, failure to stop for police, operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license, operating an unregistered motor vehicle, operating an uninsured motor vehicle, possession to distribute a class A drug, class B drug possession, and conspiracy to violate drug law. He was ordered held on \$50,000 bail.

CHESHIRE SELECTMEN MAY SEEK PEER REVIEW OF DOLLAR GENERAL (NA, P)

The Selectmen may request a peer review of the Dollar General curb cut traffic study. Iberkshires.com reports that residents Richard Scholz and John Tremblay approached the board with a letter last night asking them to request the peer review of the traffic study by the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission. The discount chain store has shown interest in purchasing and demolishing the dilapidated historic property at the corner of West Mountain Road and Route 8 to make way for a Dollar General.

NA 12-01-14

ELECTRICITY BACK ON IN MOST OF BERKSHIRE COUNTY (All)

Power is back on for residents in Berkshire County who lost power due to Friday's heavy, wet snow. National Grid had fewer than two dozen outages in the Berkshires by Saturday morning, while Western Massachusetts Electric Company had full restoration by then. Each utility reported the number of customer outages at more than 2,000 on Friday morning. Both companies blamed the dense, sticky snow, which clung to, stressed, and eventually broke objects like trees and utility wires long after the storm had moved away. Those customers affected by "widespread, scattered outages" on Friday were concentrated in the hilltowns.

WILLIAMSTOWN SELECTMEN CONSIDER ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT (NA)

The Williamstown Board of Selectmen is considering whether it wants to follow the old maxim: You have to spend money to make money. IBerkshires.com reports that more specifically, the board is considering a recommendation from a local entrepreneur that the town looks at hiring a consultant to help with its efforts to boost economic development. Williamstown resident Jeffrey Thomas spoke to the board earlier this month about his role with a North Adams-based non-profit whose mission is to promote economic development in Northern Berkshire County.

ELECTRIC SHUT-OFF SCAM (All)

A number of businesses and homeowners in Berkshire County have been targeted in a scam that threatened to turn off their electricity unless they pay their utility bills. Several Western Massachusetts Electric Company customers in Pittsfield and Lee – and National Grid customers in Great Barrington and other parts of the Berkshires have been targeted with callers claiming to be from their utility company. The caller requests an immediate payment over the phone to bring the account current. Authorities say that several people have fallen for the scheme.

ADAMS-CHESHIRE FIRST-GRADERS FIND SUCCESS IN NEW READING INITIATIVE (NA)

Adams-Cheshire Regional School District first-grade teachers reported that pupils are responding well to a newly adopted literacy program. IBerkshires.com reports that first-grade teacher Mary Tanner presented data supporting the success of the Bay State Reading Institute, a publicly funded initiative focused on promoting literacy, to the School Committee on Monday night. She said because of the children's fluency success, the institute challenged them to meet higher rates by winter. As of this week, 57 percent have already met the goal. She added 80 percent of the children already met the previous end-of-year goal. Tanner said she expects even more to meet the goal by January.

FUNERAL FOR RETIRED SPRINGFIELD BISHOP TODAY (All)

Calling hours and a prayer service were held yesterday for retired Springfield Bishop Joseph Maguire who died on November 23rd at the age of 95, according to the Roman Catholic Diocese of Springfield. The funeral is taking place this morning at 11, with burial to follow at St. Michael's Cemetery Mausoleum in Springfield.

NA 12-04-14

NURSES TO PICKET STAFFING LEVELS; BMC DISPUTES UNION'S STATISTICS (NA, P)

The Nurses union will picket outside Berkshire Medical Center next week over what they call "dangerous staffing levels," — a claim the hospital flatly contested. The Berkshire Eagle is reporting that in a news release issued yesterday, the Massachusetts Nurses Association said next week's protest is the nurses' way to "protest what they believe are dangerous staffing levels, excessive patient assignments for nurses and other health care workers, and a punitive work environment that is compromising the quality and safety of patient care for patients they serve throughout Berkshire County." BMC fired back at the MNA's claims, asserting that staffing levels are appropriate for the hospital's patient count and are adjusted as volume rises and falls. Mike Leary, spokesman for BMC, said 650 union nurses are employed by BMC and a vote of 80 doesn't necessarily reflect the opinion of the entire nursing staff. The picket will take place from 2-5 p.m. on Wednesday next week.

PITTSFIELD MAN ADMITS 2012 RAPE AND FACES UP TO 10 YEARS IN PRISON (P – All interest)

A Pittsfield man is facing up to 10 years in prison after admitting to raping a Pittsfield woman in her home during a November 2012 break-in. 43 year old Christopher Peterson entered into a guilty plea in Berkshire Superior Court yesterday as part of a joint recommendation reached between his attorney and the Berkshire District Attorney's office. Peterson was arrested in December of 2012, and has since been held on \$100,000 bail at the Berkshire County Jail & House of Correction. He pleaded guilty in Berkshire Superior Court to aggravated rape and breaking and entering in the nighttime for a felony.

NORTH ADAMS HISTORICAL COMMISSION HOLDS FIRM (NA)

The North Adams Historical Commission has affirmed its decision to keep the wrecking ball away from an abandoned house at 11-15 Furnace Street, despite requests from city officials for its demolition. The Berkshire Eagle reports that the commission agreed at its Monday meeting to uphold its August 21st decision to block the demolition on the property, which is part of the Western Gateway Heritage State Park. Community Development Director Michael Nuallie had asked the commission to reconsider, but its four present members agreed their order should remain in place.

ADAMS NETS 90K ON PROPERTY AUCTIONS (NA)

The town of Adams has netted nearly \$90,000 through the auction of five distressed properties — all of them seized for back taxes. Five other properties didn't generate bids high enough to sell on Monday at the Adams Visitors Center. The sale of the three properties with houses and two parcels without any buildings netted the town a total of \$89,500, said town Treasurer Kelly Rice. The taxes owed on the five properties totaled roughly \$55,000.

NORTH ADAMS TREE LIGHTING WELL ATTENDED (NA)

The City of North Adams, despite the rain, held its annual Christmas Tree Lighting last night. Hundreds of people attend the lighting, which included singing, hot cocoa and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus, who handed out small gifts from a North Adams Fire Department engine. Trees at both ends of Main Street were lit during the 6pm gathering. The First Baptist Church Sanctuary Choir performed a series of holiday melodies and Christmas carols.

NA 12-05-14

WILLIAMS COLLEGE JOINS WHITE HOUSE INITIATIVE ON COLLEGE ACCESS (NA)

Williams College President Adam Falk yesterday joined President Obama, the First Lady, and Vice President Biden along with hundreds of college presidents and other higher education leaders to announce new actions to help more students prepare for and graduate from college. The White House College Opportunity Day of Action was held to support the President's commitment to partner with colleges and universities, business leaders, and nonprofits to support students across the country to help our nation reach its goal of leading the world in college attainment. Williams submitted to the initiative a dozen new efforts to expand student preparedness for college and persistence to graduation.

RATE CONFUSION WITH ELECTRICAL SUPPLIER SWITCH (NA)

National Grid customers being switched over to new supplier Hampshire Power will see a 'transition' price in this month's bill of the new and old rates. IBerkshires.com reports that November's electric bills had a lot of residents scratching their heads. The city joined with nine other communities in an electrical aggregation program this fall to purchase power from a different, and lower cost, supplier. Hampshire Power offered a set rate of \$0.12191 per kilowatt hour compared to National Grid's raised rate of \$0.16273 per kWh. The switch was set for November 1st — the same day National Grid's rate increase went into effect. But what ratepayers saw on their bills was \$0.13341 — which didn't correlate to any of the stated rates. Administrative Officer Michael Canales said he's been fielding calls from confused residents since they received their bills.

ADAMS SELECTMEN APPOINT TOWN ADMINISTRATOR, DESIGNATE BLIGHT (NA)

Selectmen in Adams officially appointed a new town administrator and designated a new blight area in town. Pending a physical and his signing of the contract, Tony Mazzucco will start January 12th. IBerkshires.com reports that he has agreed to a three-year contract with a starting salary of \$81,000. The board voted unanimously to hire Mazzucco, the assistant city manager of Caribou Maine, after his interview November 22nd. The board also accepted a resolution that will designate a new slums and blight area and make it available for Community Development Block Grants.

INTERIM SCHOOL CHIEF VOTE TODAY IN WILLIAMSTOWN (NA)

School officials in Williamstown are poised to vote on a contract today for Gordon Noseworthy to serve as interim superintendent of Williamstown-Lanesborough Public Schools. Noseworthy, of Northampton, served as interim superintendent in Pittsfield in 2012-13 and also held that position in North Brookfield in 2010-11. According to Mount Greylock Regional School Committee Chairwoman Carrie Greene, he was selected for the position after interviews in open session on November 21st.

NA 12-16-14

GROUP OF TENANTS FILE LAWSUIT IN CHESHIRE (NA)

A group of tenants in Cheshire has filed a lawsuit against Morgan Management, claiming the landlord waited years to fix septic troubles at the mobile home park it owns off Wells Road and charged residents to pay for overdue repairs. The Berkshire Eagle reports that tenants living in Pine Valley's 95 units lived with "noxious odors" and in "unhealthy and unsanitary" conditions for more than a decade, the town's Rent Control Board found. Now the tenants are seeking more than \$200,000 in repayments on rent from Morgan via a class action lawsuit. The group claims they were forced to live in those conditions during which time they thought they were collectively paying toward an eventual repair of the park's septic system.

BERKSHIRES NUMBER-ONE CHRISTMAS TOWN (All)

Impulcity.com has listed the Berkshires in its list of the 17 "Most Amazing Christmas Town's in America." The Berkshires, as a whole in fact, was listed number-one over-all. The website says that the Berkshires knows how to-do Christmas, citing the "Festival of Trees" at The Berkshire Museum – and plenty of skiing. The website called the Berkshires a great place to spend Christmas with beautiful views everywhere you look and plenty of great bed & breakfasts, such as An English Hideaway, The Egremont Village Inn, and Whistler's Inn. Also mentioned were the Berkshire Mountain Lodge and Canyon Ranch. Tabernash, Colorado and York Beach, Maine were listed at two and three respectively.

GAS PRICES CONTINUE DOWNWARD TREND (All)

Massachusetts drivers continue to benefit from tumbling prices at the pump. AAA Southern New England reports that the cost of a gallon of self-serve, regular dropped a dime in the past week to an average of \$2.68. The current Bay State average is a quarter lower than a month ago and 75 cents lower than at this time last year, but still 13 cents per gallon above the national average.

PATRICK UNCERTAIN ON FUTURE PLANS (All)

Gov. Deval Patrick says he still has made no decisions about his future after leaving office. Patrick indicated yesterday that he had received feelers about a "range of things" but had no plans beyond vacationing with his wife, Diane, after his final day as governor on January 8th. Possible opportunities included what he termed a "loose affiliation" with an initiative planned by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

HEALTH INSURANCE DEADLINE LATER IN MASSACHUSETTS (All)

Massachusetts residents seeking health insurance beginning January 1st have a little more time to sign up through the state's health connector. State officials yesterday sought to clear up confusion about the enrollment deadline, which is Monday for people in many other states but not until December 23rd in Massachusetts.

ADAMS BOARD OF HEALTH REVISITING RENTAL INSPECTION FEES (NA)

The Adams Board of Health may add a late fee for landlords delinquent in getting their rental properties inspected. IBerkshires.com reports that Code Enforcement Officer Scott Koczela told the Board of Health that he often gets called to do an inspection after people are already living in an apartment. Koczela said normally the fee is \$25 and many landlords think nothing of moving people in without an inspection. He would like to raise the fee to \$50 if renters are moved in too early. Koczela said there are many repeat offenders and even some of the town's better landlords allow people to move in prior to inspection.

CLARK ART TO CHARGE ADMISSION STARTING JANUARY 1st (NA)

The Clark Art Institute in Williamstown will start charging admission on January 1st. The museum officially posted its new admission policy yesterday, ending a long-standing practice of free admission November through May. According to the museum's website adult admission to the galleries will be \$20. Admission will continue to be free for members, children under 18 and students with valid identification. Through the end of December, admission is free in the main galleries. However, the Monet - - Kelly exhibition has a \$10 admission charge through December 31st.

CRAFTS & ARTISAN STORE KIT & KABOODLE REOPENS IN NORTH ADAMS (NA)

Crafts store Kit & Kaboodle has changed its location but not its commitment to showcasing local talent. IBerkshires.com reports that the store's new space at 26 Holden Street North Adams displays a wide range of local and regionally made items, from scarves and handmade soaps and scented candles to paintings, carvings and many other items. And owner Carolyn Albert's own crocheted items. Albert opened last year in the Carlow Building in Adams but was forced to move early this fall when the building was sold. She decided to move north in hope of picking up more foot traffic.

CAMPGROUND SEASONAL RATES HIKED (NA)

Seasonal campers will have to spend more this coming summer to stay at Historic Valley Park Campground. The Windsor Lake Recreation Commission voted to raise seasonal fees 10 percent, or an extra \$180, for campers who spend the entire summer at Windsor Lake. Chairman George Forgea says that the rates have not been raised since the 2012 season. Forgea said he had discussed the rate hike with North Adams Mayor Richard Alchombright, and also suggested raising the monthly camping rate by 10 percent.

NA 12-19-14

MASSACHUSETTS GAINS JOBS, UNEMPLOYMENT RATE DOWN (All)

Massachusetts gained an estimated 13,500 jobs in November while the unemployment rate stood at 5.8 percent, down from 6 percent in the previous month. The office of Labor and Workforce Development said yesterday the state's total workforce increased by 17,600 in November, with 3,400 fewer residents unemployed during the month.

PARK STREET RECONSTRUCTION TO BE FINISHED IN SPRING (NA)

The Park Street Improvement Project is largely complete and will be completely finished in the spring. IBerkshires.com reports that the town of Adams held its third and final public meeting last night with representatives from contractor J.H. Maxymillian, and project engineer David Loring. In contrast to previous meetings however, there was barely an audience. Loring said last night that there is still some "clean up" work to be done - such as adding in another bench, new signage, new parking meters, and some line work.

NYC MAN GETS TWO-YEARS FOR HOME INVASION (NA)

A New York City man has been sentenced to two years in jail for his role in a 2013 home invasion and assault in North Adams. 22 year old Daivon Henry, of the Bronx, and another man – 24 year old Richard Smith – also of the Bronx, were accused of invading a Brayton Hill Terrace residence on July 2nd of last year, in an effort to recoup drug debts. During the break-in the pair assaulted three victims — all of whom said a gun was present — and stole \$14 in cash from one.

WILLIAMSTOWN COMMITTEE TO FOSTER ECONOMIC GROWTH (NA)

A new committee formed by the Selectmen aims to rev up a conversation on making the business climate stronger. The Berkshire Eagle reports that the Economic Development Committee, consisting of local business people and community members, ultimately will be responsible for creating a plan to sustain existing local businesses and encourage growth. The 11-person committee will meet for the first time in January, according to Selectman Hugh Daley.

NORTH ADAMS BOTIQUE CLOSING STORE-FRONT (NA)

Shima Boutique — an infant and toddler clothing and toys shop on Eagle Street in North Adams — will shift to an online-only store after the holiday shopping season, according to a message posted yesterday on the store's Facebook page. Co-owners Libbie Pike and Suzy Helme attributed the closure in part to an inability to compete with the discounts and lower prices offered by major online shopping sites.

VETERANS HOME TO CUT STAFFING AND BEDS (NA - Bennington)

Faced with a deficit and a decline in patients, the Vermont Veterans Home's board of trustees has voted to reduce its patient volume from 171 beds to 130. The only no vote came from H. Jamie Percy, the Vermont State Employees Association representative on the board. Veterans Home CEO Melissa Jackson said the average patient census has 121 in the past year. The home has 13 openings, which it will now not fill. That alone would save the Veterans Home more than \$764,000 per year. With other savings from fewer licensed beds, the cost is expected to drop \$1 million annually.

NA 12-23-14

WILLIAMSTOWN CPC FAILS IN BID TO LOWER CABLE MILLS BOND (NA)

The Williamstown Community Preservation Committee last week was thwarted in two attempts to lower the size of the bond the town will need to pay its remaining commitment to the Cable Mills renovation project. IBerkshires.com reports that town meeting in 2007 committed just more than \$1.5 million of Community Preservation Act funds to support the project, which has been delayed by — among other things — an economic downturn and the death of its principal developer. Current developer Mitchell Properties began construction on the project this fall and hopes to have the former mill building ready for residential occupation about a year's time.

WOMAN FACES FELONY CHARGES IN ALLEGED BREAK-IN (NA)

A North Adams woman is facing felony charges for allegedly charging into a West Shaft Road apartment on Sunday and assaulting a woman who lived there. 21 year old Chelsea Kelly pleaded not guilty in Northern Berkshire District Court on yesterday to two felony charges of breaking and entering in the nighttime and assault and battery with a dangerous weapon. She was released on personal recognizance with the stipulations that she remains alcohol free and avoids any contact with the victim.

HOOSAC VALLEY GIRLS SPREAD HOLIDAY CHEER (NA)

The halls of North Adams Commons were filled with the holiday spirit yesterday thanks to some local athletes. The Berkshire Eagle reports that the 12 players of the Hoosac Valley High School girls' basketball team donned reindeer antlers and Santa Claus hats to sing Christmas carols and deliver cards to residents of the skilled nursing and rehabilitation facility on Franklin Street. Hoosac Valley Head coach Coach Ron Wojcik (WO-jik) says that it's the second year in a row players of the Lady Canes have made the visit.

PIPELINE EYED TO CUT THROUGH LANESBOROUGH (NA, P, GB – Interest)

The new route of the proposed Kinder Morgan Tennessee Gas Pipeline is eyed to bisect the town along electric lines just north of Town Hall. IBerkshires.com reports that Kinder Morgan has proposed an expansive pipeline that will carry natural gas from the Marcellus Shale territory in Pennsylvania, through New York and Massachusetts before heading north to Maine. The new route goes through Hancock, Lanesborough, Cheshire, Dalton, Hinsdale, Windsor and Peru. The plan moves away from Lenox, where town meeting passed a non-binding warrant article to oppose it.

COUNTIES EXPRESS CONCERN OVER LACK OF REP ON BAKER TEAM (All)

A number of community leaders from Berkshire, Franklin and Hampshire counties have expressed concern about a dearth of representation from the region on Gov.-elect Charlie Baker's transition team. The Berkshire Eagle reports that the group of about two dozen sent a letter to Baker's policy director on December 19th, noting what was described as an apparent oversight and asking to become more involved with the new administration from the beginning. The Boston Globe reported that a Baker official denied there was any link between the lack of representation on the 175-member transition team and the overwhelming vote totals in the three western counties in favor of the Republican's opponent in the November 4th election, Democrat Martha Coakley, a native of North Adams.

All - 12-26-14

MURDER CHARGE FOLLOWS DEATH FROM GUNSHOT TO LEG (P)

A Pittsfield man has pleaded not guilty to murder and other charges in the death of a Goshen man who was shot in the leg. The Berkshire Eagle reports that Peter Campbell faces a mandatory life sentence with the chance of parole after 15 to 25 years if convicted of murder. Police say the 18-year-old Campbell shot Anthony Gamache in the leg in a botched robbery attempt November 18th. The post-mortem exam was inconclusive but the state's chief medical examiner later determined that the 29-year-old Gamache died of a blood clot caused by the gunshot wound to the leg. Police say the bullet went into Gamache's right leg, chipped the femur and remained lodged in his leg. He died after cardiac arrest. Campbell's lawyer says he's awaiting the autopsy report.

PITTSFIELD WOMAN JAILED FOR IMPERSONATING SISTER (P)

A city woman has been sentenced to three years in jail for violating her probation and giving a false name — her sister's — to the court. 45 year old Sharon Killackey was arrested last month after giving her older sister's identifying information to the Pittsfield police and several court personnel, including a judge, when she pleaded out to a shoplifting charge in October. According to prosecutors, the name, age and Social Security number she gave to all of them belonged to her sister. The case began on October 24th, when Killackey was arrested — along with a 16-year-old relative — for allegedly shoplifting about \$91 worth of items from Walmart.

LENOX WILL BID MAIN STREET PAVING (GB, P)

The town of Lenox is hoping to solicit bids next month for a new water line and paving on Main Street. Selectman Edward Lane said on Tuesday that the water line will run from Sunset Avenue to Cliffwood Road and the entire length of Main Street will be repaved. The hope is to bid the work in January and have it done before the tourism season. The town is also starting to prepare for paving on Housatonic Street. Town Manager Christopher Ketchen said the road will be paved, at a minimum, from the church to the bypass. The plan is to have that project done in fiscal 2016.

FENCE TO BE REMOVED FROM HARS WAY (GB, P)

First Congregational Church in Lee, along with town officials plan to move the church's park fence, which is often damaged by heavy trucks and cars, out of harm's way. The Berkshire Eagle reports that the marble and steel rod barrier surrounding the park at the corner of Main and Park streets has a gap — wide enough to fit two tractor-trailers — caused by a big rig driver. The latest fence bashing occurred in early November when an operator of an 18-wheeler failed to negotiate the sharp bend of the westbound lane of Route 20 where Main and Park meet. Lee Public Works Assistant Superintendent Dennis Kelly said that the mishap wiped out seven specially made white marble posts and bent four of the steel rails, all of which will be replaced at an estimated cost of at least \$10,000.

RESIDENTS FACE HEALTH CARE PAYMENT DEADLINE (All)

Massachusetts residents seeking insurance through the state's health connector are facing another deadline. They have until the end of Sunday to pay their first month's premium in order to guarantee coverage on January 1st. The original enrollment deadline was December 23rd, but connector officials gave the thousands of people who had chosen a plan but not yet paid for it a few extra days to do so. Officials said more than 40,000 individual had both signed up and paid for their plans by last Tuesday. Sunday's deadline does not apply to the many people who were placed into transitional coverage last year because of problems with the state's website and are covered through January.

SCHOOL PANEL TO WEIGH RELAXING ACADEMIC STANDARDS FOR ATHLETES (NA)

The question of whether or not a decade-old academic policy for Drury High School student athletes should be relaxed to align with guidelines endorsed by a state athletic organization will be examined early next year by a subcommittee recently appointed by the School Committee. The current district policy requires students to maintain passing grades in five core courses to play on a Drury team. That's tougher than the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association policy, which stipulates that student athletes should be passing a minimum of four core courses to play. Students typically take five to seven classes at a time. The subcommittee will begin its work in January with a conclusion possibly coming as early as March.

FIRE DISTRICT TRYING OUT WEB APP (NA)

The Williamstown Fire Department is trying out new technology officials hope will help firefighters stay connected. IBerkshires.com reports that at December's monthly meeting of the Prudential Committee, which oversees the fire district, Fire Chief Craig Pedercini told the body about "I Am Responding," an app designed to let emergency services contact their people through phones and allow the first responders to notify the base that they are on their way to the scene of an emergency.

NORTH ADAMS LITTLE LEAGUE LOOKING FOR PLAYERS (NA)

The North Adams League is looking for players to keep its six teams alive this upcoming season. With the loss of 22 12-year-olds last year, the league hopes to fill this year's rosters without having to drop another team. In 2012, the league had eight teams with 12 players per team; by last season, those numbers had fallen to six teams with 11 players each. The league age requirement is 9 1/2 years old and the Little League International has adopted a new rule that states that if your child is 8 years old at the time of tryouts, but turns 9 by the end of the calendar year, he or she would be eligible to play. Children from surrounding towns are also welcome. Children from Clarksburg and Florida, and from Stamford and Readsboro, Vt., are eligible to play.

NA 12-30-14

BAIL REDUCED FOR IRAQ WAR VET ACCUSED IN KNIFE THREAT (NA, P)

A Superior Court judge has reduced the bail of an Iraq War veteran accused of putting a knife to his girlfriend's throat and choking her dog in an October incident. Joshua Allen's bail was reduced to \$2,500 cash or \$25,000 surety and ordered that if the defendant makes bail he must go to the VA hospital. Allen remains at the Berkshire County Jail & House of Correction. He has pleaded not guilty to assault and battery with a dangerous weapon, animal cruelty, strangulation, malicious destruction of property and assault and battery. His charges remain pending in Northern Berkshire District Court.

NORTH ADAMS MAN STRUCK WITH GUN BY RESIDENT DURING ALLEGED BREAK IN (NA)

A North Adams man was bludgeoned with the butt of a pellet gun Saturday morning after allegedly breaking into the Chase Avenue home of an acquaintance. 42 year old Shawn Bulson was held on \$1,000 cash bail yesterday after allegedly kicking in the kitchen door of a man whom he had met on several occasions. When the resident discovered Bulson in the living room, he told police he struck him twice in the face with the butt of his pellet gun. North Adams Police responded to call just before 2am. Bulson pleaded not guilty in Northern Berkshire District Court to charges of breaking and entering in the nighttime for a felony and malicious destruction of property under \$250.

NORTH ADAMS MAN AGAIN ARRESTED FOR ALLEGEDLY WALKING INTO HOMES (NA)

Just five days after being released from jail on personal recognizance, a North Adams man, 19 year old Brett McConnell was again arrested for allegedly walking into city homes unannounced. Bail was again revoked for McConnell after his arraignment on two counts of felony breaking and entering in the daytime and one count of attempting to commit a crime in Northern Berkshire District Court on Monday. Judge Paul Vrabel also ordered McConnell undergo a competency and criminal responsibility evaluation. McConnell had been held earlier this month following his arraignment on several breaking and entering charges — he had allegedly entered several homes in the Blackinton Street area unprompted — of a similar nature, but he was released on personal recognizance on December 23rd.

WHEEL ESTATES RENT INCREASE WITHDRAWN (NA)

The Wheel Estates Tenants Association withdrew a petition to increase rent yesterday because of an incorrect application. IBerkshires.com reports that the Mobile Home rent Control Board postponed the petition advocating for a \$40 rent increase until January. Because the application was based on projected expenses and not past expenses, Chairman Wayne Wilkinson asked association President Sandy Overlock to withdraw the application without prejudice and reapply.

WUPE 100.1FM
North Adams, Massachusetts
ISSUES AND NEEDS REPORT

OCTOBER – NOVEMBER – DECEMBER
2014

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS are a staple party of the broadcast day on WUPE-FM. PSA's are aired free of charge whenever possible during the broadcast day. Gamma Broadcasting urges residents to fax, email or mail us public service announcements.

Gamma Broadcasting 2014

BERKSHIRE HARVEST RUN

ENDS SAT, OCT 18TH

MD

PUT ON THOSE RUNNING SHOES BECAUSE THE BERKSHIRE HEALTHCARE HARVEST RUN KICKS OFF AT 10AM ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18TH AT BERKSHIRE COMMUNITY COLLEGE. THE DAY BEGINS WITH A 5K TRAIL RUN FOLLOWED BY A ONE MILE KIDS RACE. CASH PRIZES AWARDED TO THE TOP MALE AND FEMALE FINISHERS. PROCEEDS FROM THE EVENT GO TO THE BERKSHIRE COMMUNITY COLLEGE NURSING PROGRAM. YOU CAN REGISTER ONLINE AND FIND OUT MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE EVENT AT BERKSHIRE-CC-DOT-EDU-BACKSLASH-HARVEST-RUN OR YOU CAN CALL [413-236-2185](tel:413-236-2185).

SAT: Oct 18 10AM

120 Church St, Cheshire

ROAST BEEF DIN-DIN

ENDS SAT, OCT 25TH

MD

**THE GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH IN DALTON INVITES YOU TO
THEIR ANNUAL ROAST BEEF DINNER FUNDRAISER ON SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 25TH. YOU CAN DINE ON ROAST BEEF, MASHED
POTATOES AND GRAVY, WINTER SQUASH, SALAD, AND
HOMEMADE PIES FOR A \$12 DOLLAR DONATION. KIDS 12 AND
UNDER ARE JUST \$6 AND THOSE UNDER 6 CAN EAT FOR FREE.
DOORS OPEN AT 5PM. PART OF THE PROCEEDS WILL BE
DONATED TO LOCAL CHARITIES. FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO
MAKE YOUR RESERVATION NOW, CALL 413-684-0016**

SAT: OCT 25TH 5-7PM

GRACE EPISCOPAL CHURCH: 791 MAIN STREET IN DALTON

BERKSHIRE COUNTY KIDS' PLACE

ENDS FRI, OCT 24TH

MD

BERKSHIRE COUNTY KIDS PLACE WANTS YOU TO COME OUT AND CELEBRATE AN EVENING OF MUSIC AND MEMORIES, FEATURING THE BERKSHIRES' VERY OWN MATT CUSSON. THE EVENT IS ON THE NIGHT OF FRIDAY OCTOBER 24TH AT THE CROWNE PLAZA. THIS ANNUAL CELEBRATION IS A BUISINESS CASUAL EVENT FEATURING MUSIC, DINNER, AWARDS, A PHOTO BOOTH, A SILENT AUCTION, AND MUCH MORE TO BENEFIT THE BERKSHIRE COUNTY KIDS' PLACE. TICKETS ARE \$75. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 413-499-2800.

FRI: OCT 24TH AT NIGHT

CROWNE PLAZA

**STOP THE VIOLENCE
ENDS SUN, OCT 26TH
MD**

THE CARLTON FOUNDATION WANTS YOU TO HELP END YOUTH VIOLENCE IN BERKSHIRE COUNTY. ON SUNDAY, OCT 26TH, YOU ARE INVITED TO MARCH IN THE 'STOP THE VIOLENCE' *WALK TO SAVE OUR YOUTH* AT 3PM. THE EVENT KICKS OFF AT THE CHRISTIAN CENTER ON 193 ROBBINS AVENUE IN PITTSFIELD. ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN MUST HAVE A SUPERVISOR TO WALK AND TEENS UNTER 17 MUST HAVE PERMISSION FROM THEIR PARENTS. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 413-347-0939

Sun: Oct 26th 3PM

Christian Center: 193 Robbins Avenue.

LIONS CLUB RECYCLING
ENDS SAT, OCT 25TH
MD

IT'S TIME TO RECYCLE YOUR BOTTLES AND CANS FOR A GOOD CAUSE. THE PITTSFIELD LIONS CLUB IS NOW ACCEPTING ALL SODA, BEER, TEA, JUICE, AND WATER BOTTLES, EITHER GLASS, ALUMINUM, OR PLASTIC UNTIL THE 25th. PLEASE NO WINE BOTTLES. THEY'RE ALSO TAKING OLD EYEGLASSES, CELLPHONES, AND INK CARTRIDGES, TOO. YOU CAN DROP OFF YOUR RECYCLABLES OFF OR HAVE THEM PICKED UP. THE NEXT DRIVE WILL BE IN APRIL 2015. CALL 448-2855 FOR PICK UP OR MORE INFORMATION.

Sat: Oct 25. Call 448-2855 to find a recycling location nearest you.

**WALK TO DEFEAT ALS
ENDS THUR, OCT 24
MD**

THE WALK TO DEFEAT ALS INVITES YOU TO DINE WITH THEM AT FRIENDS GRILLE ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, BETWEEN 6 AND 10PM. SUGGESTED DONATION IS \$10, WHICH WILL ENTER YOU INTO A RAFFLE TO WIN A GRAND PRIZE. THERE WILL ALSO BE A CHINESE AUCTION AND 50/50 RAFFLE. WANT TO WALK? THE EVENT BEGINS ON SATURDAY, THE 25TH, AT DCR'S CARSON BEACH MOTHERS REST AREA IN SOUTH BOSTON. CHECK IN BEGINS AT 9:30 AND THE WALK KICKS OFF AT 11AM. FOR MORE INFO OR TO MAKE A DONATION, VISIT THEIR WEBPAGE... WEB-MA-DOT-A-L-S-A-DOT-ORG-BACKSLASH-GO-TO-BACKSLASH-TEAM-N-E-U-O-N.

Kill Oct 23rd

Friends Grille, 117 Seymour St in Pittsfield

**SWEDISH MEATBALL DINNER
ENDS SAT, OCT 18
MD**

THE DALTON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH INVITES YOU TO THEIR SATURDAY SUPPER ON OCTOBER 18TH. ON THE MENU IS SWEDISH MEATBALLS, NOODLES, SOUP, AND DESSERT. ADULTS CAN DINE FOR \$10 WHILE KIDS 6-13 CAN EAT FOR \$5. YOU CAN EVEN TAKE YOUR MEAL TO GO! DOORS OPEN AT 5PM. FOR MORE INFO, CALL **413-684-0521**

Kill Oct 18th

755 Main St. Dalton

**PENNY SOCIAL
ENDS SUN, NOV 16TH
MD**

**THE PILGRIM MEMORIAL CHURCH INVITES YOU TO THEIR PENNY
SOCIAL ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16TH. DOORS OPEN AT 1PM AND
THE EVENT KICKS OFF AT 2. REFRESHMENTS AND BEVERAGES
WILL BE AVAILABLE.**

Sun: Nov 16th at 2pm

249 Waconah St. in Pittsfield

**ALL YOU CAN EAT BREAKFAST
ENDS SUN, NOV 2ND
MD**

HOW DOES AN ALL YOU CAN EAT BREAKFAST SOUND? THE UPTON LODGE OF MASONS A.F. AND A.M. ARE HOSING AN ALL YOU CAN EAT BREAKFAST BUFFET THIS SUNDAY. THE FEAST STARTS AT 8AM UNTIL 11:30. A DONATION OF \$8 FOR ADULTS, \$7 FOR SENIORS, AND \$6 FOR KIDS GETS YOU IN. YOU CAN ALSO TAKE YOUR MEAL TO GO. THESE BUFFETS WILL BE HELD ON THE FIRST SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL VERN EMERSON AT 743-3874

Sunday, Nov 2ND 8:00 at The Upton Lodge

120 Church Street, Cheshire

**ARIZONA PIZZA EAT OUT
ENDS FRI, NOV 7th
MD**

EAT AT ARIZONA PIZZA ON FRIDAY, NOV 7TH, TO SUPPORT
VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA. LET YOUR SERVER KNOW
THAT YOU WANT TO SUPPORT VIETNAM VETERANS AND 20% OF
YOUR BILL WILL BE DONATED TO THE JAMES E. CALLAHAN
BERKSHIRE CHAPTER. ARIZONA PIZZA WILL BE OPEN FROM 11AM
TO 11PM.

FRI, Nov 7th

395 Pittsfield Road – Lenox, MA

**GIVING TREE
END THUR NOV 27TH
MD**

BCAC IS CURRENTLY SOLICITING INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITY GROUPS TO FIND VOLUNTEERS TO HELP WITH THE GIVING TREE AT THE MALL, AND TO ASSIST WITH THE ORGANIZATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF GIFTS. THE GIVING TREE WILL OPEN ON "BLACK FRIDAY," NOVEMBER 28, 2014. PERSONS INTERESTED IN HELPING SHOULD CONTACT SHIRLEY OR JANET AT 413-418-3658.

Kill Nov 27

BCAC - Main office at 1531 East St. in Pittsfield

BCAC WARM CLOTHING DRIVE

KILL FRI, NOV 21ST

MD

THE BERKSHIRE COMMUNITY ACTION COUNCIL WILL BE ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR THE HOLIDAY ELF WARM CLOTHING PROGRAM UNTIL FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 21ST. APPLICATIONS ARE ACCEPTED MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY FROM 9:00 AM TO NOON AND 2: PM TO 4:00 PM, AND CONTINUE THROUGH NOVEMBER 21, 2014. BCAC STAFF URGE THOSE WHO MIGHT BE CONSIDERING PARTICIPATING IN THE DONATION ASPECT OF THE PROGRAM TO REMEMBER THAT MANY OF THESE FAMILIES IN OUR COMMUNITY WORK, BUT CAN'T AFFORD WARM CLOTHING FOR THEIR CHILDREN. COATS WILL BE DONATED TO NEEDY RESIDENTS THROUGHOUT NOVEMBER. TO DONATE OR TO GET MORE INFORMATION, CALL BCAC AT (413) 445-4503

Kill Nov 21

BCAC Locations: 85 Main Street, North Adams. Main office at 1531 East St. in Pittsfield

**HOLIDAY SWEATER FUN RUN
SUNDAY, NOV 16
MD**

HAVEN'T YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO PUT ON THAT SWEATER GRANDMA GAVE YOU FOR CHRISTMAS? WELL, NOW YOU CAN AND IT'S FOR A GREAT CAUSE! JOIN THE PITTSFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT FOR THEIR 1ST LETR HOLIDAY SWEATER FUN RUN 5K AND 1K WALK TO BENEFIT MA SPECIAL OLYMPICS ATHLETES! THE RUN KICKS OFF AT 10AM ON SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16TH WITH REGISTRATION BEGINNING AT 8:30AM. STARTING LINE IS AT MOE'S TAVERN ON RAILROAD ST. IN LEE. FOR MORE INFORMATION, HEAD ON OVER TO HOLIDAY-SWEATER-FUN-RUN-DOT-KINTERA-DOT-ORG.

Kill Nov 16
Moe's Tavern – Railroad St. Lee

PITTSFIELD TREE LIGHTING
FRIDAY, DEC 5
MD

RING IN THE HOLIDAYS THE RIGHT WAY AT THE PITTSFIELD TREE LIGHTING ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5TH STARTING AT 6PM AT PARK SQUARE. THE TACONIC HIGH SCHOOL CHORUS WILL PERFORM A VARIETY OF CAROLS BEFORE AND AFTER THE CEREMONY. ALSO, YOU CAN CATCH SANTA AND MRS. CLAUS AFTER THE TREE LIGHTING. FREE HOT CHOCOLATE WILL BE AVAILABLE, COURTESY OF PATRICK'S PUB! THIS IS THE CITY OF PITTSFIELD'S OFFICIAL TREE LIGHTING CEREMONY SO DON'T MISS IT. THOSE PLANNING TO ATTEND THE CEREMONY ARE ASKED TO BRING NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEMS THAT WILL BE DONATED TO THE CHRISTIAN CENTER'S FOOD PANTRY.

Kill Dec 5
Park Square in Pittsfield

UCP TELETHON
ENDS SUNDAY, JAN 25TH
MD

THE 52ND UNITED CEREBAL PALSY TELETHON IS COMING TO
THE CROWNE PLAZA FROM 1 TILL 5PM SUNDAY JANUARY 25.
UCP SUPPORTS CHILDREN AND ADULTS WITH PHYSICAL AND
DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES. THERE WILL BE A SILENT
AUCTION, RAFFLES, ENTERTAINMENT, AND SO MUCH MORE.
FIND OUT MORE VISIT UCP [BERKSHIRE -DOT -ORG-BACK-
SLASH-EVENTS.](http://ucpberkshire.org/back-slash-events)

Sunday: January 25, 2014 at the Crowne Plaza from 1 till 5 PM.

PENNY SOCIAL
ENDS SUN, DEC 7TH
MD

THE PILGRIM MEMORIAL CHURCH INVITES YOU TO THEIR PENNY
SOCIAL ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7TH. DOORS OPEN AT 1PM AND
THE EVENT KICKS OFF AT 2. REFRESHMENTS AND BEVERAGES
WILL BE AVAILABLE. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL ELLEN AT
413-442-9567.

Sun: Dec 7th at 2pm

249 Waconah St. in Pittsfield

**NICK GOLDSMITH BENEFIT
SAT, DEC 6
MD**

THE BENEFIT FOR NICK GOLDSMITH WANTS YOU TO HELP THE CAUSE. ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6TH, THE LENOX SPORTSMEN'S CLUB WILL OPEN THEIR DOORS AT 1PM FOR A PIG ROAST, HUGE BUFFET, MUSIC, RAFFLES, AND SO MUCH MORE. IT IS A BYOB EVENT. TICKETS ARE A \$20 DONATION AND CHILDREN UNDER 15 ARE FREE. PROCEEDS HELP NICK GOLDSMITH. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL WENDY AT 347-891-4315 OR ROY AND DEB GOLDSMITH AT 637-1971.

Kill Dec 6

Lenox Sportsmen's Club – 258 New Lenox Rd in Lenox

**SACRED HEART CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
SATURDAY, DEC 6
MD**

SACRED HEART PARISH IS HOSTING THEIR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS GIFT BAZAAR ON SATURDAY, DEC 6TH. YOU CAN SHOP FROM 17 LOCAL VENDORS. THERE WILL ALSO BE A TAG SALE, CHINESE AUCTION, SNACK BAR, A MEET AND GREET WITH SANTA, AND A \$1000 RAFFLE! THIS IS THEIR LARGEST ANNUAL FUNDRAISER. DOORS OPEN AT 9AM. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL TANYA MULLIN AT (413) 443-6960

Kill Dec 6

Sacred Heart School Auditorium – 1 Meadow Lane, Pittsfield

**COP ON TOP
SUN, DEC 7
MD**

IT'S COP ON TOP TIME AGAIN IN PITTSFIELD. STARTING AT 9AM ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, THE PITTSFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT WILL ASCEND TO THE TOP OF WALMART FOR THE 5TH ANNUAL PITTSFIELD COP ON TOP. THE TWO-DAY EVENT RAISES MONEY FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS PROGRAMS AND ATHLETES IN THE BERKSHIRES. THE EVENT IS OVER AT 5PM ON SUNDAY, DEC 7TH. IF YOU'RE UNABLE TO MAKE THE EVENT BUT STILL WANT TO DONATE, YOU CAN SEND A CHECK PAYABLE TO: SPECIAL OLYMPICS MASSACHUSETTS C/O PITTSFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT, 39 ALLEN ST., PITTSFIELD MA, 01201. ATTENTION: JOHN BASSI ON THE ENVELOPE AND NOTE "COP ON TOP" ON THE CHECK. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CHECK OUT THEIR FACEBOOK PAGE. PAGE 5TH-ANNUAL-PITTSFIELD-COP-ON-TOP.

Kill Dec 7

Cop on top – Walmart in Berkshire Crossings off Hubbard Avenue.

NORTH ADAMS TREE LIGHTING
WED, DEC 3RD
MD

CHRISTMAS IS COMING TO NORTH ADAMS TONIGHT! THE NORTH ADAMS OFFICIAL TREE LIGHTING WILL BE NOVEMBER 26TH AT 6:30PM! THE ANNUAL CEREMONY WILL BE HELD IN MONUMENT SQUARE. BRING THE KIDS TO WATCH SANTA AND MRS. CLAUS'S ARRIVAL ON THE TROLLEY. THEN, TURN TO WATCH ALL OF MAIN STREET LIGHT UP FOR THE HOLIDAYS. DON'T FORGET JOLLY THE REINDEER, THE MARSHMALLOW ROAST, TREASURE HUNT, AND SO MUCH MORE. MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT WILL BE PROVIDED. SHOPS AND RESTAURANTS WILL BE OPEN LATE AND HAVE TONS OF PRE-THANKSGIVING SALES FOR YOUR HOLIDAY SHOPPING NEEDS.

Kill Dec 3
Downtown North Adams

(Stations can add: don't forget last year's famous proposal that made national news!)

**CHRISTMAS DINNER
END SUN DEC 14TH
MD**

**THE PITTSFIELD AMERICAN LEGION POST 68 INVITES YOU TO A
FREE CHRISTMAS DINNER WITH ALL THE FIXINGS! ANYONE CAN
COME OR HAVE THEIR MEAL DELIVERED. DOORS OPEN AT NOON.
IF YOU WISH TO VOLUNTEER OR DONATE TO THIS WORTHY
CAUSE, CONTACT BERNIE OR KELLY 413-499-1435.**

Sunday, Dec 14

American Legion 41 Wendell Ave, Pittsfield

HOLIDAY PASSPORT KILL DEC 22 MD

YOU CAN WIN A \$1,000 GIFT BASKET! DOWNTOWN PITTSFIELD INC., HAS A WIN-WIN SITUATION FOR YOU, SHOP LOCALLY AND WIN BIG. OVER 30 PITTSFIELD MERCHANTS HAVE TEAMED UP FOR THE HOLIDAY PASSPORT, A FREE BOOKLET THAT YOU FILL UP AS YOU VISIT EACH LOCATION. YOU NEED ONLY 10 STAMPS FROM 10 PARTICIPATING LOCATIONS TO BE ENTERED INTO THE GRAND PRIZE. BUT HURRY! YOU ONLY HAVE UNTIL MONDAY, THE 22ND TO GET YOUR PASSPORT IN TO DOWNTOWN INC.! FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

[DOWNTOWN-PITTSFIELD-DOT-COM-BACK-SLASH-HOLIDAY-FUN.](http://DOWNTOWN-PITTSFIELD-DOT-COM-BACK-SLASH-HOLIDAY-FUN)

Ends Dec 22

Participating locations (to name a few)

Baba Louie's, [Bagels Too](#), Barrington Stage Company, [BBE Office](#), Beacon Cinema, [Berkshire Museum](#), Berkshire Running Center, [Brenda & Co.](#), Carr Hardware, [Circa](#), Colonial Theatre, [Deidres](#), Dotties Coffee Lounge, [It's My Style](#), J Allen's Clubhouse Grill, [Jadore La Mode](#), Jim's House of Shoes, [Kidding Around Consignment](#), Mad Macs, [Museum Facsimiles](#), On a Roll Café & Catering, [One West Restaurant Crowne Plaza](#), Patrick's Pub, [Persnickety Toys](#), Pine Cone Hill Outlet, [RJ Stohr](#), Steven Valenti, [The Lantern Restaurant](#), Unusual Wedding Rings, [Yours Mine & Ours](#)

**LIVING NATIVITY
SUN, DEC 14
MD**

THE YOUTH GROUPS OF THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PITTSFIELD AND BERKSHIRE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF RICHMOND INVITE YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN A LIVING NATIVITY THIS SUNDAY FROM 4 TO 6PM OUTSIDE ON THE LAWN ADJACENT TO THE MAIN ENTRANCE OF FUMC ON FENN STREET. MULTIPLE ORGANIZATIONS AND RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS WILL ALSO BE PARTICIPATING IN THIS CHRISTMAS EVENT. DRIVE BY AND JOIN THE CELEBRATION!

End Dec 14
FUMC on Fenn St

**LIONS CLUB BREAKFAST
ENDS SUN, DEC 14
MD**

THE DALTON LIONS CLUB IS HOSTING AN ALL YOU CAN EAT
BREAKFAST THIS SUNDAY STARTING AT 8:30AM AT THE DALTON
VFW. THE FEAST FEATURES DELICIOUS EGGS, PANCAKES,
SAUSAGE, BACON, TOAST, COFFEE AND JUICE. ADULTS CAN SIT
DOWN AND ENJOY A GOOD BREAKFAST FOR \$7 WHILE CHILDREN
5-12 CAN DINE FOR JUST \$5. CHILDREN UNDER 5 CAN EAT FOR
FREE! BREAKFAST ENDS AT 11AM. FOR MORE INFO, CALL DAN
MCGINISS AT 413-842-5212.

End Sunday Dec 14
Dalton VFW - 366 East Housatonic Street, Dalton

DECK THE HALLS – ELEANOR SONSINI FUNDRAISER ENDS CHRISTMAS DAY MD

THE ELEANOR SONSINI ANIMAL SHELTER NEEDS YOUR HELP!
NOW THROUGH CHRISTMAS, YOU CAN RAISE MONEY FOR THE
SHELTER THROUGH THEIR "DECK THE HALLS" EVENT. IT'S EASY.
JUST DECORATE VIRTUAL CHRISTMAS ROOM AND 100% OF THE
PROCEEDS GOES TO THE SHELTER. TO DECK YOUR VIRTUAL
HOME AND RAISE MONEY FOR BERKSHIRE COUNTY'S HOMELESS
ANIMALS, VISIT [RESCUE-FUNDRAISER-DOT-ORG-BACKSLASH-
OBEY-THE-BEAGLE-BACKSLASH-APP-BACKSLASH-E-S-A-S.](https://rescue-fundraiser-dot-org-backslash-obey-the-beagle-backslash-app-backslash-e-s-a-s)

Ends Dec 25th
Online charity

BCAC GIVING TREE
END DEC 20TH
MD

GIVE LOCAL BERKSHIRE COUNTY KIDS YOUR LOVE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON BY GIVING THEM THE GIFT OF NEEDED WARM WINTER CLOTHING. BCAC'S GIVING TREE EVENT IS SPONSORING OVER 2,000 LOCAL UNDERPRIVILEGED CHILDREN THIS SEASON. TO HELP BRING IN THE CHRISTMAS CHEER, STOP BY THEIR TABLE NEAR JC PENNEY IN THE BERKSHIRE MALL AND CHOOSE A CHILD WHO IS WISHING FOR A MIRACLE. YOU CAN ALSO DROP OFF A MONETARY DONATION OR NEW, UNWORN CLOTHING, AT THE TABLE OR AT BCAC HEADQUARTERS AT 1531 EAST ST IN PITTSFIELD. THE LAST DAY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE IS DECEMBER 20TH.

CHILDREN THAT STILL NEED TO BE SPONSORED: 64

*** OUR FRIENDS AT GREYLOCK FEDERAL CREDIT UNION HAS TAKEN **50 NAMES** OFF THE TREE AND IS CHALLENGING BERKSHIRE COUNTY BUSINESSES TO MEET OR BETTER THAT NUMBER***

STOCKBRIDGE GRANGE
ENDS SATURDAY, JAN 11TH
MD

THE STOCKBRIDGE GRANGE INVITES YOU TO THEIR FAMILY
STYLED BAKED BEAN AND HAM DINNER ON SATURDAY,
JANUARY 11TH AT THE HALL ON CHURCH STREET. YOU CAN
DINE IN OR TAKE IT TO GO FOR JUST 12 BUCKS. KIDS UNDER
12 EAT FOR JUST SIX DOLLARS. DINNER STARTS AT 1. IF
THE WEATHER IS NOT COOPERATIVE THAT DAY, CALL
AHEAD TO SEE IF THE EVENT IS POSTPONED. FOR MORE
INFORMATION, CALL 298-3185. THAT'S 298-3185

Saturday: JAN 11th from 1-2 at the Stockbridge Grange

295 Church Street, Stockbridge

WUPE 100.1FM

North Adams, Massachusetts

ISSUES AND NEEDS REPORT

OCTOBER – NOVEMBER – DECEMBER
2014

COMMONWEALTH JOURNAL

A weekly syndicated program featuring interviews and guest speakers talking about education, arts, children, religion and many other topics. Also airs on WUPE-AM, WBEC-FM 95.9 and WBEC-1420AM.

Gamma Broadcasting 2014

Quarterly Issues/Program List for July 2014-September 2014. The following is a listing of the significant issues responded to by the following stations: WHAB-FM Acton, WUNR-Boston/Brookline, WEEL-AM Boston, WRCA-AM Cambridge, WEIM-AM Fitchburg, WSBS-AM Great Barrington, WLYN-AM Lynn, WAZN-AM Marlborough, WBSM-AM New Bedford/Fairhaven, WDIS-AM Norfolk, WNAW-AM North Adams, WUMD-FM North Dartmouth, WZLX-FM North Hampton, WUHN-AM Pittsfield, WEEL-FM Providence, WBSL-FM Sheffield, WVEI-FM Springfield, WAZN-AM Watertown, WAAF-FM Worcester, WVEI-AM Worcester, WUMB-FM Boston, WBPR-FM Worcester, WUMG Stow, WUMT-FM Marshfield, WUMV-FM Milford, WFPB-AM Orleans, along with the most significant treatment of those issues

Program Issue	Date	WUMB Air Time	Program Name	Narrative of Type, Description of Issue
Politics	10/5/2014	7pm	Journal: Politics at the State Level	MA Republican Party Chair, Kirsten Hughes, speaks about her plan to revive the Republican Party in MA
Public Affairs	10/12/2014	7pm	Commonwealth Journal: Boston's Orange Line	Jeremy C. Fox-Boston Globe Correspondent & Andrew Elder -UMass Boston Archivist and Board Member at the History Project, discuss how the history of Boston's Orange Line is a time line of the growth of Boston. The also speak about their photojournalism book "Boston's Orange Line: Images of Rail".
Politics	10/19/2014	7pm	Commonwealth Journal: Lincolns Tragic Pragmatism	John Burt, Author and Professor at Brandeis University speaks about Lincolns political stance and how it may have affected equal rights and todays politics. 28:12
Public Affairs/dev. & use of local talent	10/26/2014	7pm	Commonwealth Journal: The Boston Foundation	Paul Grogan, President and CEO, The Boston Foundation, speaks about how the Foundation sets the precedent for civic leaders. 28:11
Politics	11/2/2014	7pm	Commonwealth Journal: Politics at the State Level Commonwealth	Senator Tom McGee, Chairman of the MA Democratic State Committee talks about the 2014 elections, new developments that are creating thriving communities and the future of the Commonwealth. 28:14
Educational	11/9/2014	7pm	Journal: "Birth of a Nation: How a Legendary Filmmake & a Crusading Editor Reignited America's	Dick Lehr, Author/Journalism Teacher at Boston University, speaks about his new book, which calls to attention the bicentennial anniversary of the controversial film, Birth of a Nation, and the history behind it. 27:53

Educational	11/16/2014	7pm	Commonwealth Journal: Becoming Belafonte: Black Artist, Public Radical	Judith Smith, Author, speaks about her book, which details not only Harry Belafonte's entertainment achievements, but his civil rights involvement as well. 27:48
Educational	11/23/2014	7pm	Commonwealth Journal: Creating a First Novel	Annie Weatherwax, Novelist, "All We Have: An On the Road Mother/Daughter Story", speaks about her journey from sculptress to author, and the inspiration for her first novel. 28:07
Educational	11/29/2014	7pm	Commonwealth Journal: Memoir: Lies About My Family	Amy Hoffman, Author, speaks about her new book, whether or not familial memories are "lies", what makes our memories different. 28:07
Educational	12/7/2014	7pm	Commonwealth Journal: Impact of Digital Media	Brian Halley, UMass Boston Press Editor, speaks about the state of academic publishing and the impact of the digital age 28:00
Service to Minority Groups	12/14/2014	7pm	Commonwealth Journal: Global Film Network	Reggie Life, Founder of the Global Film Network, speaks about the role film can play in documenting and developing a new global consciousness. 27:52
Politics	12/21/2014	7pm	Commonwealth Journal: Gus Speth on Global Environmental Policy	James Gustave Speth, Cofounder of the Natural Resources Defense Council & the World Resources Institute speaks on the state of environmental affairs, where we should be going to be more green, and the fossil fuel debate. 27:53
Local Self expression	12/28/2014	7pm	Commonwealth Journal: The Perfect Ghost	Linda Barnes, local Author, speaks about her new mystery novel set on Cape Cod. 28:22

WUPE 100.1FM

Pittsfield, Massachusetts

ISSUES AND NEEDS REPORT

.....

OCTOBER – NOVEMBER – DECEMBER

2014

VIEWPOINTS

This is a sample of Viewpoint programs aired during this quarter of 2014.
The program airs at 8:00 A.M. on WBEC-FM.

Gamma Broadcasting 2014



Quarterly Issues Report – Q4 Fourth Quarter, 2014 through
Viewpoints Programs 14-40 through 14-51

During the fourth quarter of 2014 the following compliancy issues were covered

Agriculture
Alcoholism & drug addiction
Banking
Bullying
Business
Children & family issues
Climate
Commerce
Consumerism
Courts & law enforcement
Crime
Culture
Death
Divorce
Domestic abuse
Early childhood development
Education
Employment
Endangered species
Entrepreneurship
Environment
Exploration
Faith
Family issues
Fashion and art
Forensics
Government
Health & well-being
Health
History
Labor & employment
Large and small businesses
Law enforcement

Law
LGBT issues
Literature & arts
Manufacturing
Media
Mental health
Veterans
Military
Music & the arts
Parenting
Personal finance
Philanthropy
Politics
Popular culture
Poverty
Prisons
Privacy
Public health
Racism
Recreation
Retail business
Science
Social movements
Sports
Technology
Teen issues
The arts
Therapy & mental health
Transportation
Urban issues
War
Women's issues

SEGMENT #1 – The Dangers and the Value of High School Football

11:15

SYNOPSIS: There has been a lot of talk about the dangers of football, and the long-term physical trauma it can cause in the pro game. But what about in high school? We talk to a former sports reporter and a former player about the dangers and the benefits of the game on the youth level, and hear about other, non-physical, problems that high school football programs face.

Host: Gary Price. **Guests:** Steve Almond, award-winning author of the book, "Against Football: One fan's reluctant manifesto," (www.againstfootball.org); Mark Edmundson, Prof. of English, University of Virginia, author of "Why Football Matters: My education in the game," (www.virginia.edu).

COMPLIANCY ISSUES COVERED: health & well-being, education, recreation, children & family issues

SEGMENT #2-- In the Kingdom of Ice: A Heroic – and Tragic – Adventure

11:30

SYNOPSIS: Back in the 1870s and 80s, the north and south poles were as mysterious and intriguing as the moon and planets are to us today. Many expeditions tried – and most failed – to reach the North Pole, leaving many courageous sailors and their ships encased in the snow and ice. We talk to an author whose new book chronicles one of those voyages about the adventure of arctic expeditions, and the men who risked their lives to find out what was actually on the top of the world.

Host: Marty Peterson. **Guests:** Hampton Sides, author of "In the Kingdom of Ice: The grand and terrible polar voyage of the USS Jeannette," (www.hamptonides.com)

COMPLIANCY ISSUES COVERED: science, military, exploration, climate, technology

Program #14-41

Air week: 10/12/14

SEGMENT #1 – Domestic Violence: Why do abusers do it?

11:35

SYNOPSIS: Many women and also men are victims of domestic violence and abuse. What makes an abusive husband or wife turn on their spouse? And how can we help the victims. We talk to two women who have worked with abusers and victims, about the reasons for abuse, what kind of behavior a woman or man should watch out for in a partner that might be a clue they're an abuser, and what can be done to prevent abuse in the future.

Host: Gary Price. **Guests:** Dr. Julie Poole, Academic Chair for the Graduate Program in Psychology at Kaplan University, and a professional counselor (www.thepathlifecoaching.com); Randy Susan Meyers, former counselor to men in court-mandated counseling for domestic abuse, author of the novel about abuse, "Accidents of Marriage," (www.randysusanmeyers.com).

COMPLIANCY ISSUES COVERED: domestic abuse, therapy & mental health, courts & law enforcement

SEGMENT #2- Co-Parenting: Raising children in two households

10:57

SYNOPSIS: Separations and divorces are common in the U.S., and out of those split-ups come children living in two households. These kids often experience situations and conflicts that their friends living in an intact household don't. We talk to a co-parenting specialist about how the parents' behavior, ability to compromise, and desire to put the child's needs above their own, can lead to successful parenting and well-adjusted, happy kids.

Host: Marty Peterson. **Guests:** Karen Bonnell, Co-parent Coach, author of "The Co-Parents' Handbook: Raising well-adjusted, resilient and resourceful kids in a two-home family from little ones to young adults," (www.thecoparentshandbook.com).

COMPLIANCY ISSUES COVERED: divorce, children & family issues, education

Program #14-42

Air week: 10/19/14

SEGMENT #1 – When We Die: The logistics of death

11:03

SYNOPSIS: When a loved-one dies, it's a time of great sorrow, and often confusion. How do you attend to the deceased's funeral? What about their banking? Credit cards? Notifying everyone? And what do you do when the heirs start fighting over the estate? We talk to two people who are specialists in these areas about what should be done after someone dies – and long before – to make the situation less difficult for everyone involved.

Host: Gary Price. **Guests:** Scott Taylor Smith, author of "When Someone Dies: The practical guide to the logistics of death," (www.whensomeonedies.net); Lori R. Sackler, Sr. VP and Sr. Investment Management Consultant, Morgan Stanley Wealth Management, author of "The M Word: The money talk every family needs to have about wealth and their financial future," (www.themword.com).

COMPLIANCY ISSUES COVERED: personal finance, banking, commerce, death, family issues, law

SEGMENT #2 Personal Style: How clothes and attitude make the difference 10:43

SYNOPSIS: Why is it that some women seem to know how to dress for every occasion, and others spend days trying to figure out what they'll wear for a night out? How do these stylish ladies do it? We talk to a veteran of the fashion industry and an image consultant about cultivating a style, what makes up a cohesive wardrobe, and the attitude a woman needs to have about herself to look and feel good about her appearance no matter what the occasion.

Host: Marty Peterson. **Guests:** Betty Halbreich, legendary personal shopper at Bergdorf Goodman, NYC, author of "I'll Drink to That: A life in style with a twist," (www.facebook.com); Nancy Nix-Rice, image consultant, author of "Looking Good Every Day: Style solutions for real women," (www.nancynixrice.com).

COMPLIANCY ISSUES COVERED: women's issues, retail business, popular culture

Program #14-43 **Air week: 10/26/14**

SEGMENT #1 – Liar, Temptress, Soldier, Spy: Women in the Civil War 11:01

SYNOPSIS: We've heard a lot about the famous generals and other heroes of the Civil War, but very little has been written about the women who fought as hard as the men for their beliefs. We talk to an author who researched these women, about the jobs they did, how they risked their lives to find and carry intelligence from the enemy to their generals, and even how they used their "feminine wiles" to get the information they needed to gain advantage in the war.

Host: Gary Price. **Guests:** Karen Abbott, author of "Liar, Temptress, Soldier, Spy: Four women undercover in the Civil War," (www.karenabbott.net).

COMPLIANCY ISSUES COVERED: history, military & veterans, women's issues

SEGMENT #2- Bats! Why they're important and how we can help them 11:26

SYNOPSIS: Bats are one of the iconic images of Halloween and hundreds of gothic novels and horror movies. They have a scary image and a bad reputation for carrying disease, but they are actually vital to global agriculture and health.

Host: Marty Peterson. **Guests:** Jodi Sedlock, Assoc. Professor of Biology specializing in bats, Lawrence University, Appleton, WI (www.Lawrence.edu); Don Mitchell, author of "Flying Blind: One man's adventures battling buckthorn, making peace with authority, and creating a home for endangered bats".

COMPLIANCY ISSUES COVERED: environment, government, agriculture, public health, endangered species

Program #14-44 **Air week: 11/2/14**

SEGMENT #1 Enchanted Objects: How they will change our lives 9:30

SYNOPSIS: These days, it's nothing to send a message, photo or business data right from your cell phone. In the near future, however, don't be surprised if your pill bottle cap will remind you to take your meds, or give you pollen counts for your usual route to work – and suggest an alternate one. You could even have

your umbrella provide weather reports, and your watch tell you where there's likely to be icy patches on the sidewalk. We talk about these "enchanted objects," and an experiment called "The Array of Things" with two tech specialists, and find out how our lives will be changed by giving everyday things "superpowers."

Host: Gary Price. Guests: David Rose, faculty member at the MIT Media Lab, author of "Enchanted Objects: Design, human desire and the internet of things," (www.enchantedobjects.com). Charlie Catlett, Sr. Computer Scientist, Argonne National Laboratory, Sr. Fellow, Computation Institute of Argonne and the University of Chicago, (www.urbanccd.org).

COMPLIANCY ISSUES COVERED: technology, health, entrepreneurship, urban issues, education, the arts.

SEGMENT #2- The Inventor and the Tycoon: The birth of motion pictures 12:02

SYNOPSIS: Watching movie trailers on the internet reminds us how technologically sophisticated movies are these days with special effects, gorgeous cinematography and amazing sound. It really wasn't that long ago when just seeing a few pictures move for a very few seconds was as exciting as 3-D movies are to us today. But who made the pictures first come to life? Was it Thomas Edison? Or someone else? We talk to an author about how two very different men – one a millionaire, the other an artist and a murderer – joined forces to make pictures move.

Host: Marty Peterson. Guests: Edward Ball, author of "The Inventor and the Tycoon: A gilded age murder and the birth of moving pictures," (www.facebook.com/EdwardBallAuthor).

COMPLIANCY ISSUES COVERED: crime, law, government, transportation, the arts, technology, education, philanthropy

Program #14-45 **Air week: 11-9-14**

SEGMENT #1 – Sports Strategy: It's about much more than winning 10:31

SYNOPSIS: Is the key to a successful sports franchise a winning player or team? Can that alone pack the stadium? Hardly. We talk to a seasoned sports strategist about many of the factors necessary for a profitable team, including venue, stars, image and the overall fan experience.

Host: Gary Price. Guests: Irving Rein, Prof. of Communication Studies, Northwestern, Univ., co-author with Adam Grossman and Ben Shields, of the book, "The Sports Strategist: Developing leaders for a high-performance industry," (www.thesportsstrategist.com).

COMPLIANCY ISSUES COVERED: business, sports, recreation, consumerism

SEGMENT #2- Gay Teens: The trials of coming out and being bullied 10:54

SYNOPSIS: For LGBT teens, the coming out process is often very stressful. What will my parents, relatives and friends think of me? Will I experience negativity? Ostracism? Or will everything be fine? We talk to two specialists in the area of gay teens about the issues of coming out to parents and friends, and how bullying because someone is gay affects the teen and others.

Host: Marty Peterson. Guests: Kristin Russo, co-author with Dannielle Owens-Reid, of "This Is a Book for Parents of Gay Kids," (www.everyoneisgay.com); Dr. Eileen Kennedy-Moore, psychologist in private practice in Princeton, NJ, professor for the Great Courses Videos, (www.thegreatcourses.com/parenting)

COMPLIANCY ISSUES COVERED: LGBT issues, education, family issues, bullying

Program #14-46 **Air week: 11/16/14**

SEGMENT #1 – Conversion Disorder: Could it have prompted the Salem Witch Trials? 11:50

SYNOPSIS: Back in the 1690s, several New England girls exhibited strange behavior that was attributed to witchcraft. The Salem Witch Trials resulted in false accusations, executions and a mystery that has haunted our country for centuries. What was happening to these girls? Were they faking or did they have a bona fide psychiatric condition. We talk to an author and a psychologist about what could have been the cause for one of the strangest events in American History.

Host: Gary Price. Guests: Katherine Howe, lecturer in American Studies, Cornell Univ, author of "Conversion" (www.katherinehowe.com); Travis Langley, Prof. of Psychology, Henderson State Univ., author of "Batman and Psychology: A Dark and Stormy Knight," (Twitter: @Superherologist).

COMPLIANCY ISSUES COVERED: mental health, history, teen issues 10:43

SEGMENT #2- Hotel Confidential: Secrets of getting the best service

SYNOPSIS: Have you ever wondered what goes on behind the desk at the major hotels in the U.S.? How come some guests always get the best rooms and service, and you end up in a room overlooking the alley? Why is it that you have to pay for your mini-bar peanuts and some guests never pay? We talk to a hospitality industry insider about his experiences in two large hotels; how hotels figure out who to put where; how the mini-bar and movies work; and how to get the best service from the staff that counts.

Host: Marty Peterson. Guests: Jacob Tomskey, veteran of the hospitality business in hotels in New Orleans and New York City, author of the book, "Heads in Beds: A reckless memoir of hotels, hustles and so-called hospitality," (www.jacobtomskey.com).

COMPLIANCY ISSUES COVERED: business, transportation, consumerism, labor & employment

Program #14-47 **Air week: 11/23/14**

SEGMENT #1 – Introverts: More happy and fun than you think! 9:44

SYNOPSIS: Introverts get a bad reputation for being party poopers, shy, and even anti-social. Our two guests say that couldn't be further from the truth, and dispel the myths surrounding introverts. We discuss what introversion is, why it's not the same as shyness, how introverts can be gregarious, talkative and a lot of fun to be around.

Host: Gary Price. Guests: Todd Kashdan, Prof. of Psychology, George Mason University, author of the forthcoming book "Mindfulness, Acceptance and Positive Psychology," (April 2013), (www.todd Kashdan.com); Sophia Dembling, introvert, author of the book, "The Introvert's Way: Living a quiet life in a noisy world," (www.facebook.com/SophiaDemblingWriter).

COMPLIANCY ISSUES COVERED: mental health, recreation, technology, employment

SEGMENT #2- Technocreep: Chiseling away at our privacy 11:48

SYNOPSIS: Technology invades every part of our lives – from entertainment, to shopping, to communications. And the people who provide those cool phones, and great social media sites know a lot more about you than you might think – or like.

Host: Marty Peterson. Guests: Dr. Thomas Keenan, prof. at the University of Calgary, author of "Technocreep: The surrender of privacy and the capitalization of intimacy," (www.technocreep.com); Cameron Camp, security researcher, ESET North America, global provider of security services and products (www.eset.com).

COMPLIANCY ISSUES COVERED: technology, crime, privacy, consumerism, business

Program #14-48 **Air week: 11/30/14**

SEGMENT #1 – Reading to Kids: Why it's so important for their development 12:27

SYNOPSIS: Some of people's fondest childhood memories are the times when their parents read to them on a rainy day or at bedtime. More than just an entertaining interlude, these sessions help children develop their reading, comprehension and analytical skills. We talk to two children's reading specialists about how reading aloud to children can help them succeed in school and beyond.

Host: Gary Price. Guests: Dr. Anne van Kleeck, professor at the University of Texas-Dallas, specialist in child pre-literacy development (www.bbs.utdallas.edu); Maia Haag, president, I See Me Children's

Personalized Books, offering the "Night Before Christmas" personalized book this season (www.iseeme.com).

COMPLIANCY ISSUES COVERED: early childhood development, education, literature, parenting

SEGMENT #2- Color: How trends are created in fashion and society 9:08

SYNOPSIS: Have you ever wondered why some colors are "in" and others are "out"? Who decides these things? And what criteria do they use? We talk to a woman who is the expert on colors and trends about the social, economic and cultural events that make certain colors popular and others passé.

Host: Marty Peterson. **Guests:** Leatrice Eiseman, color specialist and forecaster for Pantone, Exec. Dir. of the Pantone Color Institute @, co-author of "Pantone on Fashion: A century of color in design," (www.pantone.com).

COMPLIANCY ISSUES COVERED: social movements, popular culture, manufacturing, fashion and art

Program #14-49 Air week: 12/7/14

SEGMENT #1 – The Life and Music of Jazz Legend, Sheila Jordan 12:00

SYNOPSIS: Jazz is the quintessential American music genre, and nobody sings it better than Sheila Jordan. We talk to Jordan and her biographer about Jordan's rise from poverty to her career singing with some of the most famous jazz musicians of the 20th century, the racism that jazz musicians – both black and white – experienced, and the need to preserve this music for future generations.

Host: Gary Price. **Guests:** Sheila Jordan, jazz singer, teacher and composer (www.sheilajordanjazz.com); Ellen Johnson, singer, musician, author of "Jazz Child: A portrait of Sheila Jordan," (www.jazzchildthebook.com).

COMPLIANCY ISSUES COVERED music & the arts, racism, poverty, alcoholism & drug addiction

SEGMENT #2- The Anatomy of a Crime Novel 9:33

SYNOPSIS: Crime novels are among the most popular reading in the U.S., and nobody writes a more engaging, suspenseful and factually accurate story than award-winning and best-selling novelist Patricia Cornwell. Her Kay Scarpetta series is full of detailed forensic information, and we talked to her about how she gathers her facts and actually experiences some of the dangerous situations that she puts her heroine through in her books.

Host: Marty Peterson. **Guests:** Patricia Cornwell, crime novelist, author of "Flesh and Blood," (www.patriciacornwell.com).

COMPLIANCY ISSUES COVERED: forensics, technology, prisons, media, law enforcement

Program #14-50 Air week: 12/14/14

SEGMENT #1 – Veterans and Employment: Best cities and jobs 10:17

SYNOPSIS: We see the honors at every major sporting event – the big flag on the field, the cheers, the signs – all for our veterans. It's wonderful that America is honoring it's military men and women, but we also need to remember that many of them come back from active duty without good jobs. We talk to two men whose organizations are trying to remedy that shortfall, and to a woman who writes about opportunities for some veterans to get back into life and work after stress-related injuries.

Host: Gary Price. **Guests:** Eric Eversole, Vice-President of the US Chamber of Commerce, Exec. Dir. of Hiring Our Heroes, (www.hiringourheroes.org); Eric Engquist, Asst. Vice President of USAA's Military Transition Program (www.usaa.com/bestplaces) Stephanie Westlund, author of "Field Exercises: How veterans are healing themselves through farming and outdoor activities," (www.fieldexercises.com).

COMPLIANCY ISSUES COVERED: military, employment, mental health, agriculture

SEGMENT #2- Consumer and Business Protection from Tech Scammers 11:18

SYNOPSIS: Credit card and debit card scams are almost a weekly occurrence these days, and some of the biggest banks and retailers, have been victims, as well as small businesses and individual consumers. Is there anything we can do to stay safer? We talk to two tech security experts about how these scams are happening and how everyone can stay a little bit safer this holiday season, and beyond.

Host: Marty Peterson. **Guests:** Sergio Galindo, Gen. Manager, GFI Software, (www.gfi.com); Philip Becnel, Managing Partner, Dinolt Becnel & Wells Investigative Group, Washington, DC (www.dinolt.com).

COMPLIANCY ISSUES COVERED: technology, crime, large and small businesses, consumerism

Program #14-51 **Air week: 12/21/14**

SEGMENT #1 – Silent Night: The World War I Christmas Truce 10:26

SYNOPSIS: In the winter of 1914, British and French soldiers spent their days hunkered down in cold, wet trenches, battling the German army which was dug in only 75 yards away. World War I was one of the bloodiest -- and some say the most unnecessary -- wars in history. Yet, one event occurred on Christmas Eve of that year that has never happened before or since in war. We talk to a historian and author about the World War I Christmas Truce and how it affected the soldiers who fought there, and how we can use this event as a lesson for future conflicts.

Host: Gary Price. **Guest:** Stanley Weintraub, historian, author of "Silent Night: The story of the WWI Christmas Truce." (www.amazon.com).

COMPLIANCY ISSUES COVERED: war, faith, government, politics, culture

SEGMENT #2- Write a Novel in a Month? You can do it! 11:16

SYNOPSIS: Have you ever wanted to write a novel, but figured you didn't have the time? Or didn't know what to write or where to start? Our guest says that those perceived "problems" shouldn't be a roadblock to anyone who dreams of creating a work of fiction. We find out how to get started, where to find inspiration, how to keep from giving up, and, most importantly, how to finish your novel in a month.

Host: Marty Peterson. **Guest:** Chris Baty, founder of National Novel Writing Month, (NaNoWriMo), teacher, speaker and author of "No Plot? No Problem: A low-stress, high-velocity guide to writing a novel in 30 days," (www.nanowrimo.org).

COMPLIANCY ISSUES COVERED: literature & arts, education, employment

Program #14-52 **Air week: 12/28/14**

SEGMENT #1 – A Christmas Far From Home: On the battlefields of the Korean War 10:47

SYNOPSIS: It was right after Thanksgiving in 1950, when U.S. troops found themselves out-numbered by North Korean and Chinese soldiers in the frigid and unforgiving terrain near the Chosin Reservoir. The enemy destroyed the bridge over a 4,000-foot-deep chasm that was their exit to safety, but it did not scare off the brave men who were hell-bent on making it back to the coast. We'll hear how they used their ingenuity and raw determination to bring as many soldiers back alive in spite of overwhelming odds.

Host: Gary Price. **Guests:** Stanley Weintraub, historian and author of "A Christmas Far from Home: An epic tale of courage and survival during the Korean War."

COMPLIANCY ISSUES COVERED: war & military, government, politics

SEGMENT #2- Looking Ahead to 2015 – How are your finances? 10:52

SYNOPSIS: It's the end of 2014, and we're scrambling to get our financial houses in order for this year and plan a bit for the next. Our guest offers some last-minute advice on what you can do to save a bit on your taxes and plan ahead for a more secure financial situation in 2015.

Host: Marty Peterson. Guests: Lauren Lyons Cole, Personal Finance Contributor at The Street.com (www.thestreet.com). (www.laurenlyonscole.com).

COMPLIANCY ISSUES COVERED: taxes, personal finance, philanthropy, family issues

Contents copyright 2014 by
MediaTracks, Incorporated
2250 East Devon Avenue, Suite 150
Des Plaines, Illinois 60018
847-299-9500 Fax 847-299-9501
www.mediatracks.com

Producers: Pat Reuter
Production Directors: Sean Waldron, Nick Hofstra & Reed Pence

Each week's program is available for affiliate download at <ftp://mediatracksdownloads.com>. For guest information, log onto www.viewpointsonline.net. *Viewpoints* is a registered trademark of MediaTracks, Incorporated.

